RECEIVED FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

#### BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION	ONC		2014 MAY 21	AM Q. 12
In the matter of	)			
The National Republican Congressional Committee	)	MUR 6802	COUNS	GENERAL SEL

### RESPONSE OF THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE AND KEITH DAVIS, AS TREASURER, TO THE COMPLAINT

This responds on behalf of our clients, the National Republican Congressional Committee ("NRCC"), and Keith Davis, as Treasurer (collectively, the "Respondents"), to the notification from the Federal Election Commission ("Commission") that a complaint was filed against them in the above-captioned matter. The complaint was filed by Campaign Legal Center and Democracy 21 ("Complainants"), two liberal, soft money organizations that oppose Republican candidates and organizations. The complaint is legally deficient because it misstates the law and is nothing more than a baseless, sensationalized attack that has no merit. For the reasons set forth here and as fully explained below; Complainant's allegations are without merit because:

- Each website carried both the FEC and IRS disclaimers identifying the NRCC as the
  entity paying for the website and as the recipient of any contributions made via the
  webpage.
- Each attack microsite was clearly oppositional, designed to defeat the candidate, and populated with content that attacked the Democrat candidate referenced in the website. As such, each website squarely falls under the opposition exception at 11 C.F.R.
   § 102.14(b)(3) for any project that "clearly and unambiguously shows opposition to the named candidate."
- The communications made via the attack microsite webpages are protected core political speech made by a political party expressing opposition to political candidates, and protected by the First Amendment.

Accordingly, the Commission should find no reason to believe that Respondents violated the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (the "Act"), or Commission regulations, dismiss the matter, close the file, and take no further action.

#### Introduction

The websites cited in the complaint are all clearly candidate-opposition websites. The websites expose oppositional information about Democrat candidates, such as asking people who are "fed up" with their Democratic incumbent to sign up for a mailing list, detailing how one Democrat is a "huge embarrassment," how another is one that "families just can't trust," pleading to "help us stop" another "from bankrupting us in Congress," asking visitors to "STOP [one candidate] from buying a seat in Congress," promoting a web video detailing how one Democratic candidate employed a fundraiser who was also a sex offender, and the list goes on. As plain opposition websites, they are simply not the sorts of communications the Commission guards against in its regulations.

The Act and Commission regulations have long prohibited the use of candidate names in unauthorized committees, as well as supportive project titles. The Commission's concern stems from attempts to profit off of intentional confusion created by committees and projects "supporting" the candidate it names, while contributions in fact go to other entities rather than the candidate's committee. Using candidate names in unauthorized committee names or supportive projects can create confusion and lead a candidate's supporters into thinking their contribution to the unauthorized committee is actually going directly to the candidate, when indeed it is not. However, as the Commission has previously stated, the same danger of confusion is not present with respect to projects that clearly oppose the identified federal candidate. The 1994 Explanation and Justification regarding the regulation ("E&J") makes clear that the risk of confusion inherent in supportive projects is not there for projects that obviously oppose the candidate named.

In the context of candidate-opposition projects, the First Amendment demands that the Commission not second-guess the manner in which a committee chooses to express the reasons for its opposition to the candidate and deliver relevant opposition research about the candidate opposed

to the voting public. This protection also extends to requests for donations by the committee for funds to oppose and defeat the candidate. Accordingly, the Commission must find no reason to believe, dismiss the complaint, take no further action, and close the file.

#### Discussion

I. Any fair and objective review of each website referenced in the complaint will reveal that the websites were created, designed and populated with content expressing clear opposition to the Democratic candidate who was the focus of each website.

Starting in August 2013, the NRCC launched a number of websites it termed "attack microsites" against Democratic candidates for Congress.\footnote{1} The sites, while differing in content and design, uniformly contain negative information about the Democratic candidate they focus upon in an attempt to counter deceptive spin and rhetoric by the Democratic campaigns themselves. The launch of the websites was accompanied by numerous NRCC press releases and press statements from the NRCC communications team, announcing the existence and purpose of these attack microsites as, as one press release described it, an opportunity for "voters [to] learn the truth about these two-faced politicians." Press Release, NRCC, New NRCC Campaign Targets "Red Zone" Democrats with Microsites (Nov. 6, 2013), available at https://www.nrcc.org/2013/11/06/new-nrcc-campaign-targets-red-zone-democrats-microsites/. The Hill covered the launch of a number of the "attack sites" against Democratic incumbents in November 2013, noting that "each includes details on the candidates' voting history and Republican attack line" and "all provide the option for a user to donate to the NRCC and sign up to the committee's mailing list." NRCC hits top Democratic targets with attack microsites, The Hill, Nov. 6, 2013, http://thehill.com/blogs/ballot-box/189382-nrcc-hits-top-dem-targets-with-attack-microsites.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> There is nothing new or unusual about this strategy. The NRCC websites at issue are part of a trend of oppositional webpages sponsored by political parties, campaigns, or other speakers that seek to correct the record concerning positive claims about an opponent.

The websites cited in the complaint followed a similar format and content, containing a variety of negative information and express statements advocating the defeat of the candidate. In addition to disseminating negative information concerning the candidates themselves, the sites gave visitors the opportunity to donate to the NRCC or sign up for its mailing list if they were "Fed up" with or wanted to "Stop" the targeted candidate or official. More information about the content of each website referenced in the complaint follows.

In addition to the websites' oppositional content, each website included the required "paid for by" disclaimer, clearly and conspicuously visible in a box. The disclaimer reads: "Paid for by the National Republican Congressional Committee and not authorized by any candidate or candidate's committee. www.nrcc.org." In other words, the disclaimer identifies the NRCC as the entity paying for the site — twice — and indicates it was "not authorized" by any candidate. In addition, the NRCC further included the IRS disclaimer on the main webpage indicating that "Contributions to the National Republican Congressional Committee are not deductible as charitable contributions for Federal income tax purposes," as well as on any contribution page.

#### A. Andrew Romanoff attack microsite

The attack site opposing Andrew Romanoff, Democratic candidate for Colorado's 6th Congressional District is housed at andrewromanoff2014.com. The site details facts concerning Romanoff's poor record as Colorado's Speaker of the House. The site offers the ability to donate or sign up if readers have "Had enough of Andrew Romanoff." Other than the "donate" and "submit" buttons, disclaimers, and an "Andrew Romanoff for Congress" graphic, every sentence displayed on the site expresses opposition to him, using words and phrases such as:

- "Denver liberal"
- "voted more than 50 times for higher fees and taxes"
- "chief architect of one of the largest tax hikes in Colorado's history"
- "claims [Obamacare] doesn't go far enough"
- "out of touch"

The website contains not only a "paid for by" disclaimer identifying the NRCC as the sponsor of the website, but also the IRS disclaimer language indicating that contributions "to the National Republican Congressional Committee" are not federal tax deductible.

#### B. Annie Kuster attack microsite

The attack site opposing Annie Kuster, Democratic candidate for New Hampshire's 2nd Congressional District is housed at anniekusterforcongress.com. The site details facts concerning Kuster's poor record in Congress. The site offers the ability to donate or sign up if readers are "Fed up with Annie Kuster." Other than the "donate" and "submit" buttons, disclaimers, and an "Annie Kuster for Congress" graphic, every sentence displayed on the site expresses opposition to her, using words and phrases such as:

- Has "a typical Washington D.C. attitude one set of rules for Kuster and one set of rules for everyone else."
- "wants New Hampshire families to pay more in taxes"
- "millionaire Kuster was delinquent on \$44,0000 of her own taxes because, as she said, "life is expensive"
- "dodging the tax man"
- "fully out-of-touch voting record"
- "voted for Nancy Pelosi's job killing agenda 94% of the time"
- "anything but an independent voice"
- "consistently supported Obamacare"
- "chose politics over solutions"
- "another Washington D.C. hypocrite"
- "dodging taxes and playing by her own set of rules"
- "voting against New Hampshire families and small business"

The website also features a web video of Kuster dodging a question regarding Benghazi. The website contains not only a "paid for by" disclaimer identifying the NRCC as the sponsor of the website, but also the IRS disclaimer language indicating that contributions "to the National Republican Congressional Committee" are not federal tax deductible.

#### C. Ann Kirkpatrick attack microsite

The site targeting Ann Kirkpatrick, Democratic Congresswoman representing Arizona's 1st congressional district, is housed at annkirkpatrick.com. Besides the donate button, submit button, disclaimers, and a Kirkpatrick for Congress graphic, every sentence or component of the website expresses opposition to Kirkpatrick. The full text of the site is available in the Appendix A, a sample of the oppositional language includes:

- "career politician and insider"
- "booted out of Congress"
- "sided with Nancy Pelosi and supported ObamaCare"
- "Pelosi's allies came to her rescue with millions of dollars"
- "in Pelosi's back pocket"
- "huge embarrassment to Arizona"
- "walked out on her own town hall"
- "voted to keep the Grand Canyon shut down so she could protect ObamaCare"
- "isn't just liberal she doesn't even do her job"
- "Fed up with"<sup>2</sup>

The website contains not only a "paid for by" disclaimer identifying the NRCC as the sponsor of the website, but also the IRS disclaimer language indicating that contributions "to the National Republican Congressional Committee" are not federal tax deductible. It was publicly rolled out on November 6, 2013 in an NRCC press release entitled "New NRCC Campaign Targets 'Red Zone' Democrats with Microsites," indicating "the sites show voters where these Democrats really stand, and will provide a stark contrast to their own websites." Press Release, NRCC, New NRCC Campaign Targets "Red Zone" Democrats with Microsites (Nov. 6, 2013), available at https://www.nrcc.org/2013/11/06/new-nrcc-campaign-targets-red-zone-democrats-microsites/

#### D. Bill Hughes, Ir. attack microsite

The attack website targeting Bill Hughes, Jr., Democrat candidate for New Jersey's 2<sup>nd</sup>
Congressional District, was posted August 21, 2014 at billhughesirforcongress.com. Besides the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The phrase "fed up with" is specifically cited in the Commission's 1994 Explanation & Justification as one that "clearly and unambiguously indicate[s] opposition to a candidate even though no individual word in the title has that import." 59 Fed. Reg. 17267, 17269 (Apr. 12, 1994)

"donate"/"contribute," "home" and "submit" buttons, disclaimers, and the web address in a portion of a graphic, every sentence or component of the site expresses opposition to Hughes's candidacy. The background of the website is a picture of a man's hands in handcuffs. The graphic at the top of the page reads in full: "Need to get out of jail? Better Call Bill! Bill Hughes Jr. BILLHUGHESJRFORCONGRESS.COM," followed by "Helping New Jersey's most corrupt criminals since 2002." In addition to the obviously oppositional language and imagery, the following represents the remaining text of the attack microsite:

After a career of making big money trying to keep some of New Jersey's most powerful and corrupt criminals out of prison, Bill Hughes Jr. now wants to take his act to the halls of Congress.

- Represented a former casino host who pled guilty to participating in an interstate racketeering ring.
- Represented a client who pled guilty to falsifying tax returns in a large tax fraud scheme.
- Represented a client who pled guilty to participating in a large internet credit card fraud and criminal copyright network.

The website contains not only a "paid for by" disclaimer identifying the NRCC as the sponsor of the website, but also the IRS disclaimer language indicating that contributions "to the National Republican Congressional Committee" are not federal tax deductible.

#### E. Collin Peterson attack microsite

The attack site opposing Collin Peterson, Democratic candidate for Minnesota's 7th Congressional District is housed at collinpeterson2014.com. The site details facts concerning Peterson's poor record in Congress. The site offers the ability to donate or sign up if readers are "Fed up with Collin Peterson." Other than the "donate" and "submit" buttons, disclaimers, and a "Collin Peterson for Congress" graphic, every component of the site expresses opposition to him, using words and phrases such as:

- "Peterson is part of the problem"
- "out of touch"
- "willing to ask for a 27% increase in the federal gas tax"

- "hurts farmers"
- "protect[ed] ObamaCare at the expense of shutting down the government"
- "lost touch with Minnesota families"

The website contains not only a "paid for by" disclaimer identifying the NRCC as the sponsor of the website, but also the IRS disclaimer language indicating that contributions "to the National Republican Congressional Committee" are not federal tax deductible.

#### F. Domenic Recchia attack microsite

The attack site opposing Domenic Recchia, Democratic candidate for New York's 11<sup>th</sup>
Congressional District is housed at domenic-recchia.com. The site details facts concerning Recchia's poor record in previous offices held. The site offers the ability to donate or sign up if readers are "Fed up with Domenic Recchia." Other than the "donate" and "submit" buttons, disclaimers, and a "Domenic Recchia for Congress" graphic, the site uniformly expresses opposition to him, using words and phrases such as:

- "career politician"
- "desperate to keep his taxpayer-funded salary"
- "seeks to extend his political relevance"
- "raised city property taxes by 19.49 percent 'with virtually no public input"
- "increasing taxes on New Yorkers at virtually every opportunity"
- "late with his property taxes every single quarter since 2010"
- "used taxpayer money to help solidify his shady relationship"

The website contains not only a "paid for by" disclaimer identifying the NRCC as the sponsor of the website, but also the IRS disclaimer language indicating that contributions "to the National Republican Congressional Committee" are not federal tax deductible.

#### G. John Barrow attack microsite

The attack site opposing John Barrow, Democratic candidate for Georgia's 12th

Congressional District is housed at johnbarrow2014.com. The site details facts concerning Barrow's self-serving actions in Congress. The site offers the ability to donate or sign up if readers are "Fed

up with John Barrow." Other than the "donate" and "submit" buttons, disclaimers, and a "John Barrow for Congress" graphic, the site uniformly expresses opposition to him, reprinting a long quote from the Augusta Chronicle criticizing Barrow's actions in Congress, and using words and phrases such as:

- "not fighting for them in Washington"
- "You know it's bad when your own newspaper writes this about your self-serving approach"
- "typical say-and-do-anything-to-get-elected politician"
- "own hometown newspaper even called him two-faced and said that his approach was disingenuous condescension"

The website contains not only a "paid for by" disclaimer identifying the NRCC as the sponsor of the website, but also the IRS disclaimer language indicating that contributions "to the National Republican Congressional Committee" are not federal tax deductible.

#### H. John Lewis attack microsite

The attack site opposing John Lewis, Democratic candidate for Montana's At-Large Congressional seat is housed at johnlewis4congress.com. The site details facts concerning Lewis's career on the Hill. The site offers the ability to donate or sign up if readers "Had enough of John Lewis" and urges readers to "come back and visit this site to learn more about why Lewis needs to retire from Washington." Other than the "donate" and "submit" buttons, disclaimers, and a "John Lewis for Congress" graphic, the site uniformly expresses opposition to him and ties him to his former boss, a "longtime liberal crusader", using words and phrases such as:

- "bad for Montana"
- "pocketed over \$568,000 of taxpayers' money"
- "has been laying the groundwork for his campaign . . . on the taxpayer's dime"
- "top aide to the 'chief architect' of Obamacare"

The website contains not only a "paid for by" disclaimer identifying the NRCC as the sponsor of the website, but also the IRS disclaimer language indicating that contributions "to the National Republican Congressional Committee" are not federal tax deductible.

#### I. John Tierney attack microsite

The attack site opposing John Tierney, Democratic candidate for Massachusetts's 6th Congressional District is housed at johntierney2014.com. The site details facts concerning Tierney's poor record in Congress and his family's involvement with an illegal gambling operation in Antigua. The site offers the ability to donate or sign up if readers are "Fed up with John Tierney." Other than the "donate" and "submit" buttons, disclaimers, and a "John Tierney for Congress" graphic, the site uniformly expresses opposition to him, using words and phrases such as:

- "infamous"
- "extreme and partisan"
- "holding our economy hostage"
- "out-of-the-mainstream policies"
- "voted for the Grijalva Budget, which would tax Massachusetts businesses at rates between 45% and 49%.
- "would harm middle class families saving for retirement"

The website contains not only a "paid for by" disclaimer identifying the NRCC as the sponsor of the website, but also the IRS disclaimer language indicating that contributions "to the National Republican Congressional Committee" are not federal tax deductible.

#### J. Martha Robertson attack microsite

The attack microsite targeting Martha Robertson, Democrat candidate for New York's 23<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District is housed at martha-robertson.com. Besides the sign up and donate buttons, disclaimers, and a Robertson for Congress graphic, every sentence or component of the website expresses opposition to Robertson's candidacy. In addition, the Robertson website features prominently a video entitled "Martha Robertson: 'Our Congresswoman?'" which depicts in a visible still shot display a photo of Robertson overlaid with text "Money from a sex offender." Though the

full text accompanying this video is produced in the Appendix A, a sample of the oppositional phrases includes:

- "consistently voted to raise taxes on middle class families"
- "proud liberal"
- "looking to take her tax, spend, and waste routine to . . . Congress"
- "Fed up with"
- "calls for a FBI investigation into whether Robertson committed federal wire fraud."
- "began her campaign by having a convicted child molester headline her fundraiser"
- "thinks that climate change is ... more important than jobs, the economy, education, and national security"
- "thinks ObamaCare does not go far enough to involve government in health care"

The website also contains not only a paid for disclaimer identifying the NRCC as the sponsor of the website, but also the IRS disclaimer language indicating that contributions "to the National Republican Congressional Committee" are not federal tax deductible. The site was touted by a NRCC press release on November 7, 2013. Press Release, NRCC, NRCC Launches Website Against New York Congressional Candidate Martha Robertson (Nov. 7, 2013), available at Appendix B.

#### K. Nancy Pelosi attack microsite

The attack site opposing Nancy Pelosi, former Speaker of the House and current House Democrat leader is housed at nancypelosi2014.com. The site details facts concerning Pelosi's poor record in Congress. The site indicates "Nancy Pelosi must never be Speaker again. Republicans in the House are the last line of defense for what President Obama wants: total Democrat control of Congress. Don't let this happen:" and then offers the ability to donate or sign up. Other than the "donate" and "submit" buttons, disclaimers, and a "Nancy Pelosi for Congress" graphic, the site contains a number of unflattering quotes and uniformly expressed opposition to her, using words and phrases such as:

- "added trillions to the national debt"
- "supported a failed stimulus"

- "wrote ObamaCare"
- "out of touch"
- "already has a Super PAC funded by Washington special interests smearing candidates across the country"

The website contains not only a "paid for by" disclaimer identifying the NRCC as the sponsor of the website, but also the IRS disclaimer language indicating that contributions "to the National Republican Congressional Committee" are not federal tax deductible.

#### L. Mike Parrish attack microsite

The attack site opposing Mike Partish, former Democratic candidate for Pennsylvania's 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District was housed at partish4congress.com. The NRCC removed the site shortly after Partish dropped out of the race on March 18, 2014. The site detailed facts concerning Partish's decision to run as a Democrat despite being a life-long politically-active Republican. The site offered the ability to donate or sign up if readers "Had enough of Mike Partish". Other than the "donate" and "submit" buttons, disclaimers, and a "Mike Partish US Congress" graphic, the site uniformly expressed opposition to Partish and detailed his multiple contributions to Republican candidates and party committees, using words and phrases such as:

- "switched his registration"
- "immediately abandoned his previously held political beliefs"
- "began buying into the big government agenda of his new fundraiser-in-chief, Nancy Pelosi"

The website contained not only a "paid for by" disclaimer identifying the NRCC as the sponsor of the website, but also the IRS disclaimer language indicating that contributions "to the National Republican Congressional Committee" were not federal tax deductible.

#### M. Nick Rahall attack microsite

The attack site opposing Nick Rahall, Democratic candidate for West Virginia's 3rd

Congressional District is housed at rahallforcongress.com. The site details facts concerning Rahall's

poor record in Congress, especially his role in the war on coal. The site indicates "The evidence is

indisputable – Nick Rahall has openly sold out West Virginia and joined the War on Coal" and offers the ability to donate or sign up. Other than the "donate" and "submit" buttons, disclaimers, and a "Nick Rahall for Congress" graphic, the site uniformly expresses opposition to him, using words and phrases such as:

- "voted for .... carbon tax that would destroy coal jobs and devastate West Virginia's economy"
- "so far left of mainstream"
- "could put West Virginia's 20,000 coal jobs at risk and could adversely affect thousands more"
- "joined Nancy Pelosi and a small, select group of liberal lawmakers"

The website contains not only a "paid for by" disclaimer identifying the NRCC as the sponsor of the website, but also the IRS disclaimer language indicating that contributions "to the National Republican Congressional Committee" are not federal tax deductible.

#### N. Amanda Renteria attack microsite

The attack site opposing Amanda Renteria, Democratic candidate for California's 21st Congressional District is housed at renteria4congress.com. The site details facts concerning Renteria's Washington insider past. The site offers the ability to sign up if readers wanted to "Stop Amanda Renteria." Other than the "submit" button, disclaimers, and an "Amanda Renteria for Congress" graphic, the site uniformly expresses opposition to her, using words and phrases such as:

- "epitome of a Washington insider."
- "took a trip through the revolving door to Capitol Hill"
- "received over one million dollars in taxpayer-funded salary"
- her bosses "voted to bailout her former Wall Street friends"
- "worked for some of Washington's most liberal Democrats"
- "would harm middle class families saving for retirement"

The website contains not only a "paid for by" disclaimer identifying the NRCC as the sponsor of the website, but also the IRS disclaimer language indicating that contributions "to the National

Republican Congressional Committee" are not federal tax deductible, even though there was no direct mechanism from which to contribute on the webpage.

#### O. Ron Barber attack microsite

The attack site opposing Ron Barber, Democratic candidate for Arizona's 2nd Congressional District is housed at ronbarber2014.com. The site contains information on "how out-of-touch" Ron Barber is. The site offers the ability to donate or sign up if readers are "Fed up with Ron Barber." Other than the "donate" and "submit" buttons, disclaimers, and a "Ron Barber Congress" graphic, the site uniformly expresses opposition to him, using words and phrases such as:

- "more interested in keeping his job than making sure there are jobs for you and your family"
- "will say just about anything to get elected"
- "going along with what Washington special interests tell him to do"
- "voted to allow student loan interest rates to increase"
- "voted against work requirements for food stamps"

The website contains not only a "paid for by" disclaimer identifying the NRCC as the sponsor of the website, but also the IRS disclaimer language indicating that contributions "to the National Republican Congressional Committee" are not federal tax deductible.

#### P. Sean Eldridge attack microsite

The attack site opposing Sean Eldridge, Democratic candidate for New York's 19th Congressional District is housed at seaneldridgeforcongress2014.com. The site details negative facts about Sean Eldridge's candidacy for Congress. The site asks readers to "Help us STOP Sean Eldridge from buying a seat in Congress" and offers the ability to donate or sign up. Other than the "donate" and "submit" buttons, disclaimers, and a "Sean Eldridge for Congress 2014" graphic, the site features a web video sarcastically entitled "Lifestyles of the Rich and Out of Touch" featuring Eldridge and uniformly expresses opposition to him, using words and phrases such as:

 "so that he can take his rightful place alongside the liberal elitist establishment in Washington D.C."

- "seeking to return America to the one-party-rule of 2008-10"
- "hoping to buy your support"
- "bought his new \$2 million dollar mansion in Shokan so that he could run for Congress"
- "so far left of mainstream"

The website also included a number of "Headlines and Quotes" negatively depicting Eldridge's candidacy including:

- "Young, Rich and Relocating Yet Again in Hunt for Political Office"
- "Great at Buying Hudson Valley Homes, Not as Good at Buying His Neighbors' Affection"
- "Another Thing Facebook Money Will Buy: Unlimited Mansions From Which to Seek Office"
- "Eldridge will use that 3-D printer to make his own congressional district and represent it if he has to."

The website contains not only a "paid for by" disclaimer identifying the NRCC as the sponsor of the website, but also the IRS disclaimer language indicating that contributions "to the National Republican Congressional Committee" are not federal tax deductible.

#### Q. Carol Shea-Porter attack microsite

The attack site opposing Carol Shea-Porter, Democratic candidate for New Hampshire's 1st Congressional District is housed at sheaporterforcongress.com. The site contains information on Shea-Porter's poor record in Congress. The site offers the ability to donate or sign up if readers are "Fed up with Carol Shea-Porter." Other than the "contribute" and "submit" buttons, disclaimers, and a "Carol Shea-Porter for Congress" graphic, the site uniformly expresses opposition to her, using words and phrases such as:

- "loyal liberal foot soldiers"
- "voted along partisan lines 95% of the time"
- "one of Nancy Pelosi's most reliable rubber stamps"
- "thinks that Obamacare does not go far enough to hand control of our health care over to the government"
- "voted against providing working moms the same flexibility and monetary compensation as government bureaucrats"

"Carol Shea-Porter is less interested in representing the First District of New Hampshire
in Washington than she is in forcing more Washington D.C. bureaucracy on the First
District of New Hampshire."

The website contains not only a "paid for by" disclaimer identifying the NRCC as the sponsor of the website, but also the IRS disclaimer language indicating that contributions "to the National Republican Congressional Committee" are not federal tax deductible.

#### R. Alex Sink attack microsite

The attack site opposing Alex Sink, Democratic candidate for Florida's 13th Congressional District special general election held on March 11, 2014, was housed at sinkforcongress2014.com. The site, in various forms, detailed facts concerning Sink's poor record as Chief Financial Officer of Florida and housed a minute-long attack ad-style video titled and captioned "Alex Sink: A Risk We Can't Afford." Starting in January 2014, it also linked to "The Real Alex Sink Truth Squad," an additional webpage that debunked some of Sink's campaign claims. The site offered the ability to donate or sign up to "Help us stop Alex Sink from bankrupting us in Congress." Other than the "donate" and "submit" buttons, disclaimers, and an "Alex Sink Congress" graphic, every sentence displayed on the site expressed opposition to Sink, using words and phrases such as:

- "wasted our money"
- "hurt Florida seniors"
- "made bad investments and lost hundreds of millions of dollars"
- "skirted legal advice, gambled on risky investments"
- "lost billions of dollars"
- "eliminated thousands of jobs while taking millions in salary"
- "can't be trusted here"
- "Help us stop Alex Sink from bankrupting us in Congress" / "Help Defeat Alex Sink and candidates like her"

Though the complaint puzzlingly asserts at one point that there was only "a single mention on the webpage of opposition to the candidate [that] appears further down the page and in smaller type, among the page's other content," as illustrated below, this is simply not the case. Compl. at 3. The content consists almost entirely of oppositional statements. In fact, complainant admits the site "contains a variety of express statements advocating the defeat of the candidate," contradicting its later claim of a "single mention." Compl. at 1.

Later iterations included an attack ad-style video and additional text "Alex Sink: A Risk We Can't Afford." All iterations of the website contained not only a "paid for by" disclaimer identifying the NRCC as the sponsor of the website, but also the IRS disclaimer language indicating that contributions "to the National Republican Congressional Committee" were not federal tax deductible.

After Sink officially announced her candidacy for the special election in October 2013, the NRCC pushed the website with the media, indicating it "highlights Sink's long career of wasting Florida voters' money with no remorse." Press Release, NRCC, NRCC Statement on Alex Sink Running for Congress (Oct. 30, 2013), available at http://www.nrcc.org/2013/10/30/nrcc-statement-alex-sink-running-congress/. The attack microsite was covered by the Tampa Bay Times on page 1B, along with its coverage of Sink's announcement that she would be running for the seat, reporting that "The National Republican Congressional Committee struck back [on Sink's announcement] within hours, launching a website slamming 'Sink's long career of wasting Florida voters' money with no remorse," Curtis Krueger, GOP Strikes Quickly on Sink, Tampa Bay Times, October 31, 2013, at 1B. In January 2014, the NRCC added the "The Real Alex Sink Truth Team" page to the oppositional website about Sink, posting additional negative information concerning Sink, and announcing the update with additional press releases, garnering additional media coverage of the NRCC's efforts.

#### S. Kyrsten Sinema attack microsite

The attack website targeting Kyrsten Sinema, incumbent Democrat candidate for Arizona's 9th Congressional District, is housed at sinemaforcongress.com. Besides the donate and submit buttons, disclaimers, and a "Kyrsten Sinema for Congress" graphic, every sentence or component of the site expresses opposition to Sinema's candidacy. The full text of the site is reproduced in Appendix A, but some of the oppositional language includes:

- "longtime partisan liberal and career politician"
- "Obsessed with voting against a balanced budget, hiking student loan rates and keeping ObamaCare—the law she helped craft"
- "fits right in among the legions of Nancy Pelosi Democrats"
- "families just can't trust"
- "can't be trusted to fix our nation's financial crisis"
- "Women just can't trust Sinema to stand up for them"
- "said women who stay-at-home are leeching off their husbands or boyfriends."
- "let student loan rates increase and held a bipartisan plan to lower them hostage"
- "too busy spending her time in Congress doing national TV interviews and fawning magazine profiles."

The website also contains not only a "paid for by" disclaimer identifying the NRCC, but also the IRS disclaimer language indicating that contributions "to the National Republican Congressional Committee" are not federal tax deductible. The website was touted in an NRCC press release indicating that the NRCC "is launching microsites so voters can finally learn the truth about these two-faced politicians." Press Release, NRCC, New NRCC Web Campaign Targets Arizona Democrats with Microsites (Nov. 6, 2013), available at Appendix B.

II. Any reasonable examination of the sites — including the NRCC's media announcements, the news media's coverage of the websites at the time they were launched, and even the complaint's own description of them — leads to the conclusion that the attack microsites are clearly designed to encourage defeat of the Democratic candidates and, therefore, qualify for the opposition exception in 11 C.F.R. § 102.14(b)(3).

As illustrated above, there can be no mistaking the oppositional nature of the websites.

Every sentence in each of the sites clearly expresses unmistakable opposition to the candidate named. Either above or below the means to contribute or sign up with the NRCC is large-print text either asking if the viewer is "Fed up" with the candidate targeted or wants to "Stop" the candidate targeted. As they are oppositional in nature, each of the websites qualifies for the exception for a project that "clearly and unambiguously shows opposition to the named candidate." § 102.14(b)(3)

a. The regulations regarding use of candidate names guard against use in committee names and projects purporting to support candidates; the rules create a carve-out for

## opposition projects like the NRCC's attack microsites since the concerns about confusion are absent in clear opposition projects.

The prohibition on the use of candidates' names in unauthorized committee names and the names of supportive special projects at § 102.14 reflects the Commission's concern about confusion stemming from committees or supportive projects. The Commission expressed its concern that supportive fundraising projects may adversely affect the candidate's campaign committees and contributors who make contributions believing they are supporting a candidate, when in fact, they're supporting a completely different committee.

The regulation stems from 2 U.S.C. § 432(e)(4), a section of the Act that prohibits using candidate names in the name of an unauthorized committee. In 1992, when the Commission expanded the committee name prohibition to "any name under which a committee conducts activities, such as solicitations or other communications, including a special project name or other designation," the Commission explained that it "has become increasingly concerned over the possibility for confusion or abuse" of the use of candidate names in special projects. 57 Fed. Reg. 31424, 31424 (July 15, 1992) [hereinafter "1992 E&J"]. The 1992 E&J also followed Common Cause v. FEC, 842 F.2d 436, a case concerning an unauthorized committee's inclusion of Ronald Reagan's name in projects soliciting money in his name—including on letterheads and return addresses—and even asking for contributions by checks made payable to accounts bearing Reagan's name including "Americans for Reagan," "Citizens for Reagan in 80" and "Ronald Reagan Victory Fund." The 1992 E&J focused on specific complaints by authorized presidential candidate committees in the 1998 election who suffered the same problem as Reagan in 1980 and explained that unauthorized projects had raised \$10 million during the 1988 presidential campaign using one candidate's name, and \$4.4 million using two others', though the money never went to the candidates' committees.

But the 1992 amendment was quickly followed up by an important carve-out for projects clearly indicating opposition to candidates. Both the 1992 and the 1994 E&Js indicate the

Commission's concern with use of candidate names in project titles is with respect to situations where support of a candidate leads to confusion about whether contributions go to the candidate's committee or an unauthorized committee. After all, the justification for the 1992 rulemaking was solely based on these supportive projects. The 1994 carve-out for uses of candidate names in projects that clearly indicate opposition to the named candidate reflects this distinction. In it, the Commission clearly explained that, while there was a serious risk of confusion when unauthorized committees use candidate names as part of an effort to support the named candidate, the successful petitioner argued and the Commission cited, "There is no danger of confusion or abuse inherent in the use of a candidate's name by a committee or project which opposes the candidate." The E&J indicates that "The Commission recognized that the potential for fraud and abuse is significantly reduced in the case of such titles, and has accordingly revised its rules to permit them." 59 Fed. Reg. 17267, 17269 (Apr. 12, 1994) [hereinafter "1994 E&]"].

Since the attack microsites at issue here are clearly oppositional, they are not the sorts of communications the Commission was concerned about when writing § 102.14 in 1992, and they are precisely the types of communications for which the Commission recognized the need to create an opposition exception in 1994.

b. Further, the NRCC's websites are not operated under a "name under which a committee conducts activities" other than the "National Republican Congressional Committee" or "NRCC" and neither the websites' addresses nor a single graphic constitute the title of a special project.

Today's § 102.14 requires that, except for one that "clearly and unambiguously shows opposition to the named candidate," "no authorized committee shall include the name of any candidate in its name" and "name' indicates any name under which a committee conducts activities, such as solicitations or other communications, including a special project name or other designation."

On its face, the regulation specifically indicates the "name" at issue is "any name under which the committee conducts activities." But the phrase is only further explained as "such as solicitations or other communications, including a special project name or other designation." The Commission's 1992 and 1994 E&J responses to the Common Cause case and the follow-up thereto make exceedingly clear that the regulation sought to prevent confusion caused by deceptively structured supportive fundraising projects that purported to support the candidate in name but that did not benefit the candidate in the end.

But here the NRCC's websites are conducted in its own name, not any other. There is no "name" or "title" of the project; no solicitations were made in a "name" or "title" other than the NRCC's name. The accompanying media campaign promoting the websites was done solely in the name of the NRCC, as illustrated by its press releases and blog posts. The disclaimers clearly and prominently identify the NRCC as the entity paying for the websites and receiving the contributions. If there was a name at all for any of the websites, which is unlikely, it is simply the NRCC's itself.

Contrary to the complaint's assertion, the Commission has never indicated that any single component of a website itself comprises the title of a project, and has certainly never determined that the web address or URL constitutes a title. In fact, the Commission has never defined what the title of a special project would be, let alone what the "title" or "name" of an internet website would be. A 1995 Advisory Opinion, AO 1995-9 (NewtWatch), indicated that the operation of NewtWatch's website, which the committee described as "a forum for publicly available information" that "exists principally as a 'virtual PAC' on the World Wide Web," would be a special project. AO 1995-9 at 1. But importantly, in that Advisory Opinion, the requester had specifically

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> By no means is it clear that a website itself even constitutes a "special project," let alone the name of one. In their Statement of Reasons in MUR 6399, Commissioners Hunter, McGahn, and Peterson expressed skepticism that a congressional campaign's operation of an opposition website comprised of its opponent's name was a "special project." See Commissioners Hunter, McGahn, and Peterson, Statement of Reasons, MUR 6399, at 5 n.16 (assuming only "arguendo" that the website was a special project).

supplied and designated that title to the Commission in its request; the Commission did not determine that "NewtWatch" was the name or title of the website based on a URL or a heading — or any other factor. In fact, the URL cited was "http://www.cais.com/newtwatch". AO 1995-9 at 1. Though Complainant tries to re-write the Advisory Opinion to suit its agenda on this issue, the Statement of Reasons of Commissioners Hunter, McGahn, and Peterson in MUR 6399 confirmed that "No Commission precedent supports the notion that an unauthorized committee's web address constitutes the title of a special project. Advisory Opinion 1995-09 (NewtWatch) ... merely establishes that a website operated by an unauthorized committee can be considered a committee special project that is subject to the naming requirements in 11 C.F.R. § 102.14(b)(3). The opinion makes no statement that the site's web address is the project's title. (And even if it did, an advisory opinion cannot establish a new rule but only provides protection to a requester against potential liability. See 2 U.S.C. § 437h(b))." Commissioners Hunter, McGahn, and Peterson, Statement of Reasons, MUR 6399, at 5 n.16.

This is consistent with the Commission's rejection of the General Counsel's Report in MUR 6399<sup>5</sup> and the MUR 6399 Statement of Reasons where three Commissioners (the majority of those voting on the matter) agreed that "the 'name under which [the] committee conduct[ed] its [website] activities' was the name on the disclaimers... not the website URL." Commissioners Hunter, McGahn, and Peterson, Statement of Reasons, MUR 6399, at 5 n.16 (alteration in original). Further, if it were the case that a URL constituted a project's title, any use of a candidate's name in a long string of URL language could be swept into the regulation. This would effectively disallow any webpage on a larger website from bearing a candidate's name, regardless of whether it was a separate

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Complainant's attempted reliance on the Office of General Counsel's Report in MUR 6399 (Yoder for Gongress) — a Report that was rejected by the Commission, which declined to find reason to believe and closed the file — and attempt to pick and choose among various factors that supported the closing of the matter to explain why it did so belies the fact that no actual Commission precedent supports the notion that a website's URL is a special project's title.

project or "name under which the committee conducts activities," and meaning any number of candidate or political party websites would be in violation of this regulation at any time.

Importantly, this approach is also consistent with the recent dismissal of combined MURs 6633, 6641, 6643, and 6645, which considered whether a number of projects purportedly supporting Representative Allen West, candidate for Congress, violated the Act and regulations. The MUR, in part, deals with CAPE PAC's website, "votewest2012.org" which contained "a stylized logo 'Allen West for Congress 2012" in the upper left hand corner and at the bottom left of the screen. First General Counsel's Report, MURs 6633, 6641, 6643, 6645, at 8. "It also includes photos of the candidate, and descriptions of West's positions on various issues." Id. Despite the fact that the site was in support of the candidate it named in both the upper portion of the website and in the web URL, the Commission determined that the various disclosures on the website, including the disclaimer, provided sufficient notice that contributions made via the site did not go to West's committee, and neither CAPE PAC's website nor a number of other fundraising projects and communications in support of West violated the Act. In fact, though "[t]he record leaves little doubt that the Respondents sought to use Representative West's likeness to raise funds independently to support his candidacy" and "Respondents spent very little of the money they raised to support West," there was no reason to believe that the Respondents violated the Act or regulations. Id. at 2.

Though the complaint cited 11 C.F.R. § 110.11 and 110.16(b) rather than § 102.14, the

Office of General Counsel's ("OGC's") analysis is instructive here because the intent behind the two
regulations is entirely consistent: preventing confusion between authorized candidate committees
and unauthorized committees. In the consolidated MURs, OGC concluded and the Commission
agreed that the disclaimers and various notices in the supportive communications overrode the use
of the candidate's name, likeness, stylized logos, or other exhortations in the name of the candidate.

In fact, the Commission's dismissal of the consolidated MURs is even more remarkable given that each of the communications expressed support of West — precisely the sorts of communications the Commission is most concerned about under § 102.14. The NRCC's sites, on the other hand, clearly express opposition, which the Commission recognizes is less of a concern for confusion or abuse based on the use of a candidate's name. Any finding of a reason to believe the NRCC's attack microsites were in violation of the Act or the regulations would be wildly inconsistent with the Commission's decision in MURs 6633, 6641, 6643, and 6645.

III. The FEC cannot make itself the arbiter of what constitutes an "acceptable" opposition website containing core political speech, especially when there is no doubt about the website's purpose as with the NRCC websites at issue here.

Under the federal judiciary's First Amendment jurisprudence, the Commission cannot engage in burden shifting by placing the NRCC in the position of proving that the attack microsites opposing Democratic federal candidates fall within the clearly applicable opposition project exception at 11 C.F.R. § 102.14(b)(3). Any analysis of the NRCC websites must begin from the standpoint that the website contains protected political speech and is not subject to regulation. See FEC v. Wisconsin Right to Life, 127 S. Ct. 2652, 2674 (2007). The Commission bears the burden of proving that a particular website runs afoul of § 102.14, a burden it cannot carry based upon the clear facts demonstrating that each website opposed the Democratic federal candidate referenced in the attack microsite, and thus falls outside the ambit of the regulation. In fact, any doubt concerning the meaning of a phrase or word contained in one of the NRCC attack microsites must be resolved in favor of a finding that the website qualifies for the opposition exception at § 102.14(b)(3). Id. at 2669 ("Where the First Amendment is implicated, the tie goes to the speaker, not the censor."); id. at 2667 ("In short, it must give the benefit of any doubt to protecting rather than stifling speech.").6

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> The Commission must not use the enforcement action to make new rules concerning these activities. The proper vehicle is to initiate a rulemaking that satisfies the Administrative Procedure Act's notice and comment requirements. To do otherwise would violate Respondent's Due Process rights and the principles

In addition, the Commission cannot misconstrue an NRCC attack microsite that contains words and phrases opposing Democratic federal candidates as some type of "subtle" or effective ploy to trick Democratic supporters. Each website must be evaluated based upon a plain review of the website's content. The Commission cannot supply a meaning to words or phrases that is incompatible with the clear import of the actual words. *Cf. FEC v. Furgateb*, 807 F.2d 857, 863-64 (9th Cir. 1987) ("context cannot supply a meaning that is incompatible with, or simply unrelated to, the clear import of the words"). Therefore, the OGC and Commission undeniably are cabined by the First Amendment and may not use context or other open-ended factors as vehicles to characterize a genuine opposition website as a subtle or effective ploy to trick Democratic supporters of the Democratic federal candidate attacked in the website when such a characterization is not supported by a four-corners analysis of the website itself. *See N.C. Right to Life, Inc. v. Leake*, 525 F.3d 274, 284 (4th Cir. 2008) ("This sort of *ad hoc*, totality of the circumstances-based approach provides neither fair warning to speakers that their speech will be regulated nor sufficient direction to regulators as to what constitutes political speech.").

#### Conclusion

For all of the reasons stated above, there is no factual or legal basis for finding reason to believe a violation occurred in this matter. See Commissioners Wold, Mason, Thomas, Statement of Reasons, MUR 4850 ("A mere conclusory accusation without any supporting evidence does not shift the burden of proof to respondents.... The burden of proof does not shift to a respondent merely because a complaint is filed,"); Commissioners Mason, Sandstrom, McDonald, Smith,

Thomas, Wold, Statement of Reasons, MUR 5141 ("A complainant's unwarranted legal conclusions

of fundamental fairness and interpret the regulation in a manner that makes it vulnerable to a constitutional challenge. See FCC v. Fox, 132 S. Ct. 2307, 2317-2319 (2012) in align Arizona-v. Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc., 133 S. Ct. 2247, 2259 (2013) ("we think that—by analogy to the rule of statutory interpretation that avoids questionable constitutionality—validly conferred discretionary executive authority is properly exercised... to avoid serious constitutional doubt.").

from asserted facts, will not be accepted as true."). Also, the complaint's speculative accusations are not a sufficient basis for finding reason to believe — especially in light of the evidence included with this reply. Commissioners Mason, Sandstrom, Smith, Thomas, Statement of Reasons, MUR 4972 ("Mere speculation will not support an RTB finding."); Commissioners Mason, Sandstrom, Smith, Thomas, Statement of Reasons, MUR 4960 ("Such purely speculative charges, especially when accompanied by a direct refutation, do not form an adequate basis to find reason to believe that a violation of the FECA has occurred.").

Accordingly, we respectfully request that the Commission dismiss the complaint, close the file, and take no further action in this matter.

Respectfully submitted

William J. McGirlley Ann M. Donaldson

PATTON BOGGS LLP 2550 M Street, NW Washington, DC 20037 P: (202) 457-6000

F: (202) 457-6315

May 20, 2014

# EXHIBIT A



C andrewromanoff2014.com

## ANDREW ROMANOFF CONGRESS

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## ANNIE KUSTER for CONGRESS

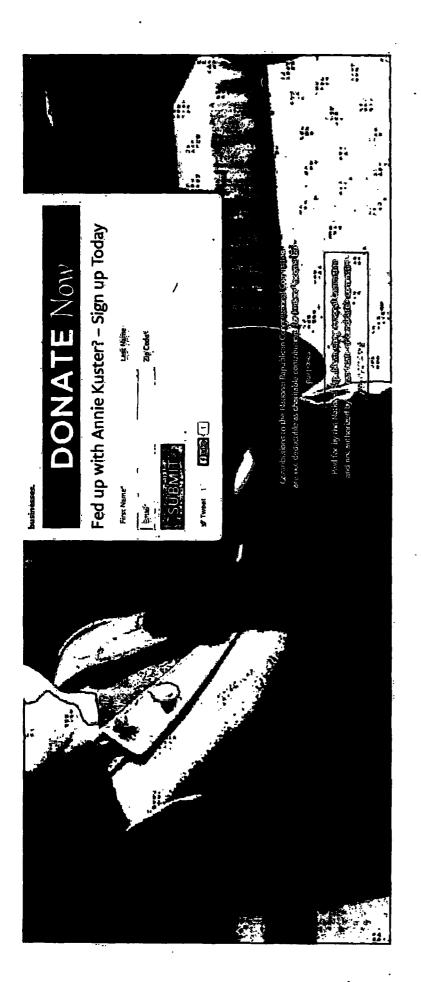


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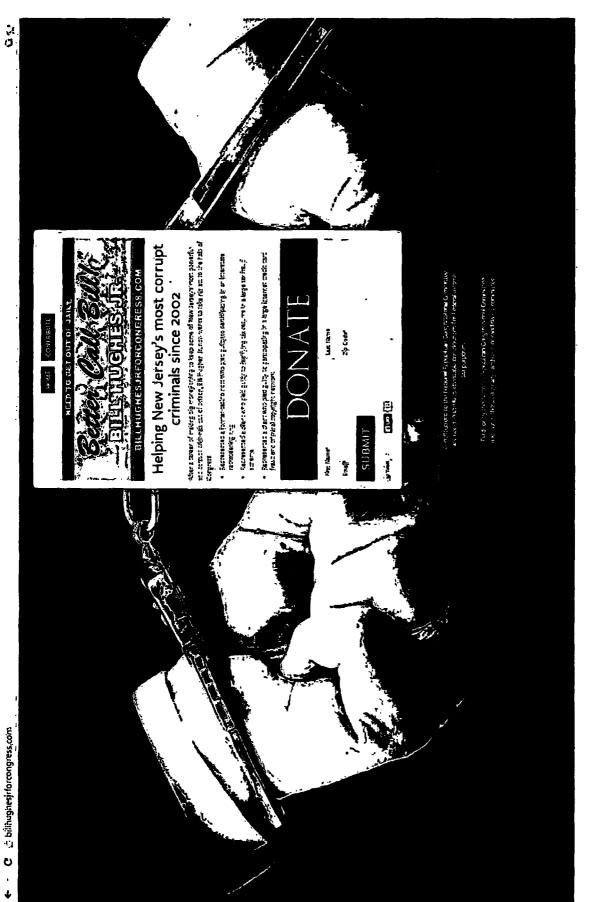
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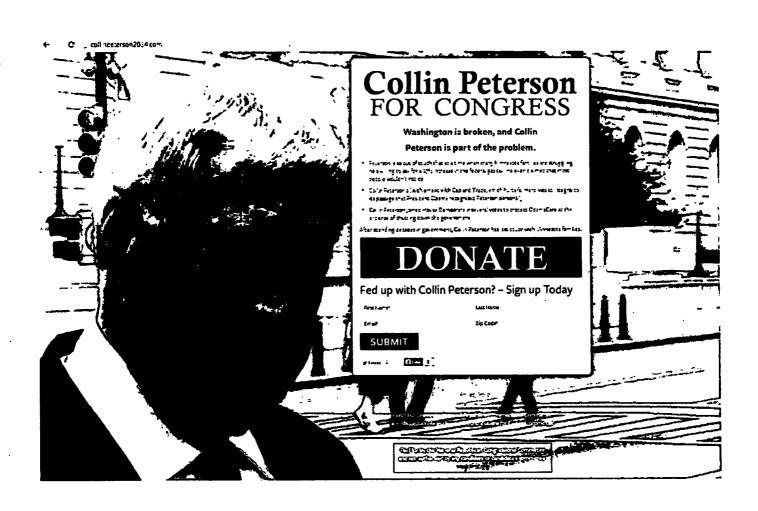
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From the minute Annie Kuster got to Congress, she proved that she would be another Washington D.C. hypocrite, dodging teacs and ploying by her own set of rules while continually voting against New Hampshire families and small businesses.











### Domenic Recchia —FOR CONGRESS—

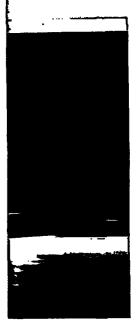
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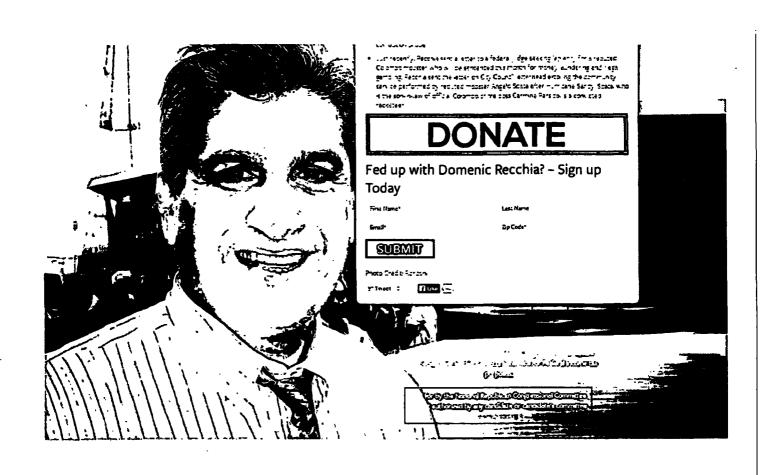
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- In 2003, Reccha voted for a plan to charge drivers \$8 to enter Monhazian below 60th St. Under the plan care would pay \$8 and trucks would pay \$31 to drive into the burless parts of Mannatian between 6 am, and 6 pm. Monday the ough Friday, corting drivers an exist set 6 kgs mulion pay year.
- Yet, despite increasing taxes on New Yorkers of virtually every opportunity; Records has been late with his property taxes every single quarter since ICCC — the very same year and Record operate Chairman of the France Committee, we has also had numerous tax tens leved on 15 property for future to pay the taxes.
- Records has used tapagest manay to help sold by his shady relationary a with former Assemblyman Vize topage, who was a key player in gating facthic appointed the irren of the Francia Committee and was recently first 5 \$35,0,000 by the legislative entits committee for repressed graphing a famile staffer and servably revealing others. Record directed the cas of dollars in suppayer money to the Religewood Systemick Senior Citizens Council, founded by Lopez despite it being a subject of a federal committee probe.





Brooklyn resident and career politician Domenic Recchia is asking for your vote for Congress.

He found himself at a crossroads in 2012 – he was term-limited from running again as City Councilman for Brooklyn, yet he was desperate to keep his taxpayer-funded salary.

After testing the waters on a run for New York City Comptroller and Brooklyn Borough President, Recchia concluded that the most profitable option to continue his career as a politician was to get to Congress and take the \$174,000 salary. After all, \$174,000 is far more than Domenic could ever earn on the City Council, even though he has voted to raise his pay and has taken thousands of dollars in taxpayer-funded stipends, a.k.a. "lulus."

## Here's a quick look at the record that Shady Dom Recchia can run on as he seeks to extend his political relevance:

As City Councilman, Recchia voted for a bill that raised city property taxes by 18.49
percent "with virtually no public input." The bill was the largest property tax increase in
the city's history at the time. In his time on the City Council, Recchia has routinely voted
to increase property taxes, incomes taxes, cigarette taxes, and the sales tax. Recchia
even voted to impose a surcharge on cellphones registered to New York City residents,
costing them \$9 million per year.

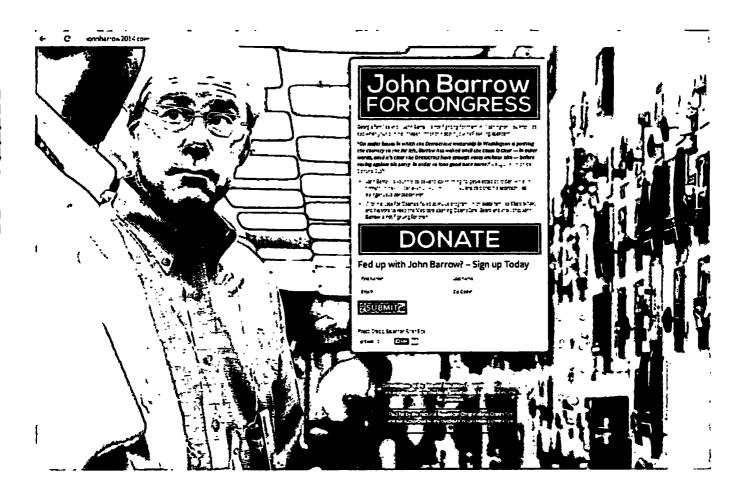
- In 2008, Recchia voted for a plan to charge drivers \$8 to enter Manhattan below 60th St. Under the plan, cars would pay \$8 and trucks would pay \$2° to drive into the busiest parts of Manhattan between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, costing drivers an estimated \$49° million per year.
- Yet, despite increasing taxes on New Yorkers at virtually every opportunity, Recchia has been late with his property taxes every single quarter since 2010 – the very same year that Recchia became Chairman of the Finance Committee. He has also had numerous tax liens levied on his property for failure to pay his taxes.
- Recchia has used taxpayer money to help solidify his shady relationship with former Assemblyman Vito Lopez, who was a key player in getting Recchia appointed chairman of the Finance Committee and was recently fined \$330,000 by the legislative ethics commission for repeatedly groping a female staffer and sexually harassing others. Recchia directed millions of dollars in taxpayer money to the Ridgewood Bushwick Senior Citizens Council, founded by Lopez, despite it being a subject of a federal corruption probe.

 Just recently, Recchia sent a letter to a federal judge seeking leniency for a reputed Colombo mobster who will be sentenced this month for money laundering and illegal gambling. Recchia sent the letter on City Council letterhead extolling the community service performed by reputed mobster Angelo Spata after Hurricane Sandy. Spata, who is the son-in-law of official Colombo crime boss Carmine Persico, is a convicted racketeer.

# DONATE

# Fed up with Domenic Recchia? - Sign up Today

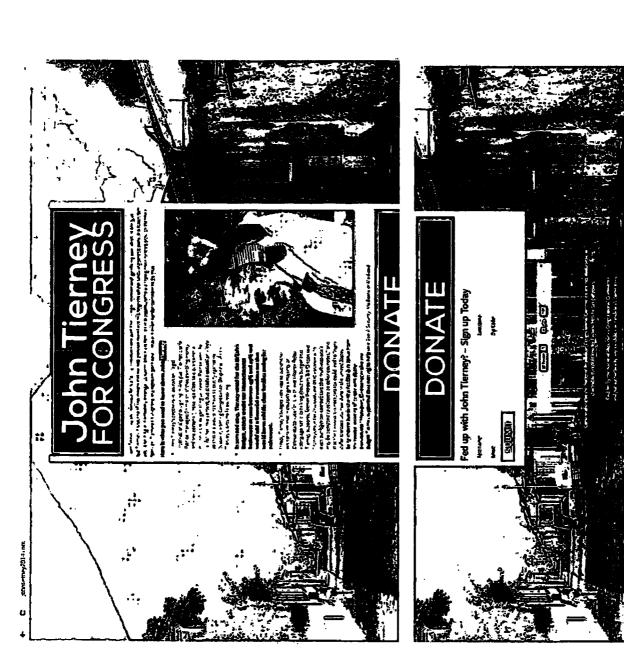
First Name*	Last Name
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Had enough of John Lewis? Sign up Today





John Tierney may be infamous for his family's involvement with their illegal international gambling operation in Antigua, but Tierney is also one of the most extreme and partisan members of Congress whose unwillingness to work in a bipartisan way is holding our economy hostage. While middle class families in Massachusetts are trying their best to provide for their families, Tierney's out-of-the-mainstream policies will make it even harder for them to do that.

## Here is what you need to know about John Tierney:

- John Tierney's brothers-in-law ran an illegal, international gambling ring in Antigua. Tierney's wife Patrice managed \$7 million of that gambling money and she personally received close to a quarter-of-amillion in those gambling proceeds. Patrice went to jail for her involvement, but pleaded spousal privilege so that she would not have to testify against her husband, a sitting Congressman. Despite all of this, Tierney claims he knew nothing.
- In 2011 and 2013, Tierney voted for the Grijalva Budget, which would tax Massachusetts businesses at rates between 45% and 49% and would add a financial transactions tax that would harm middle class families saving for retirement.
- In fact, Tierney's budget vote was so out-of-the-mainstream that it couldn't get a majority of Democrats to vote for it, with even Nancy Pelosi voting against it. In talking about the budget that Tierney supports, former President Bill Clinton said: "Its corporate tax proposals are so at variance with even our high-tax competitors that multi-nationals may be tempted to relocate to other countries," and that the financial transactions tax could lead to "high-dollar transactions now done in the United States being moved overseas with a net loss in



revenue from the taxable incomes of people who do the transactions." Moreover, Clinton notes that the budget Tierney supported does nothing to help save Social. Security, Medicare or Medicaid.

# DONATE

Fed up with John Tierney? - Sign up Today



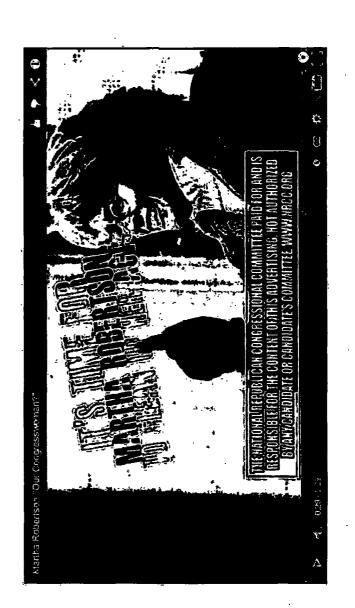


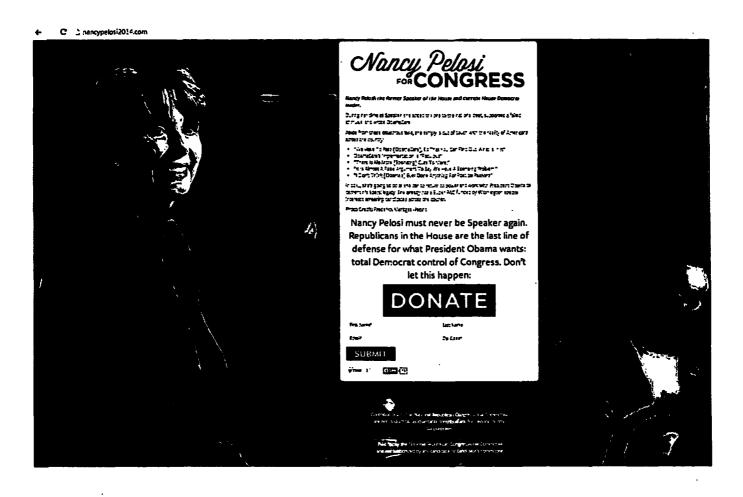
After ten years on the Tompkins County Legislature where she consistently voted to raise taxes on middle class families, proud liberal Martha Robertson is looking to take her tax, spend, and waste routine to the United States Congress. Martha believes that the government needs to be more involved in our health care, that fighting climate change is the most important issue of the day, and that her lack of integrity shouldn't be discussed. That's not all:

- Robertson thinks that Obamacare does not go far enough to involve government in health care. Rather, Robertson believes that we must support a public option and move towards a single payer health care system.
- Robertson thinks that climate change is the most important issue facing our country today – more important than jobs, the economy, education, and national security.
- Robertson began her campaign by having a convicted child molester headline her fundraiser, then accepted a personal contribution from the same sex offender.
- Robertson made a baseless criminal accusation against Republicans in a recent fundraising email, sparking calls for a FBI investigation into whether Robertson committed federal wire fraud.

# Donate

Fed up with Martha Robertson? – Sign up Today





### Nancy Pelosi: the former Speaker of the House and current House Democrat leader.

During her time as Speaker, she added trillions to the national debt, supported a failed stimulus, and wrote ObamaCare.

Aside from these disastrous laws, she simply is out of touch with the reality of Americans across the country:

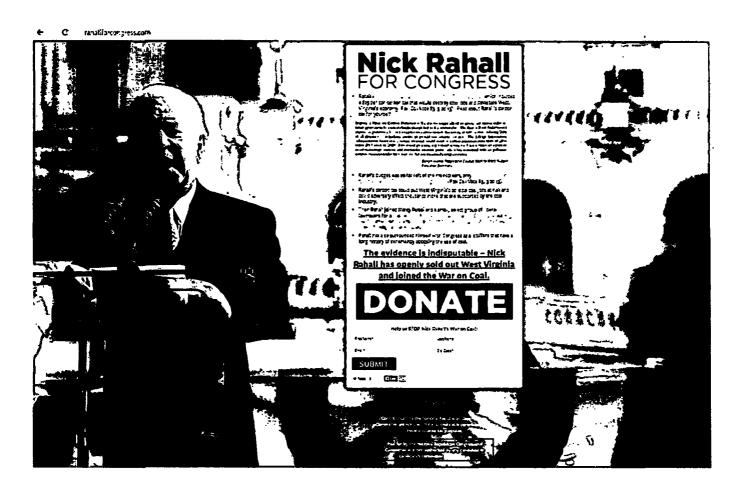
- "We Have To Pass [ObamaCare], So That You Can Find Out What Is In It"
- ObamaCare's Implementation is "Fabulous"
- "There Is No More [Spending] Cuts To Make."
- "It Is Almost A False Argument To Say We Have A Spending Problem."
- "I Don't Think [Obama's] Ever Done Anything For Political Reasons"

In 2014, she's going to do all she can to return to power and work with President Obama to cement his liberal legacy. She already has a Super PAC funded by Washington special interests smearing candidates across the country.

Photo Credit: Frederick Manligas Nacino

Nancy Pelosi must never be Speaker again.
Republicans in the House are the last line of defense for what President Obama wants: total Democrat control of Congress. Don't let this happen:





 Rahall votes for the 2014 House Progressive Caucus Sudget which included a \$25 per ton carbon tax that would destroy coal jobs and devastate West Virginia's economy (Roll Call Vote 85, 3/20/13). Read about Rahall's carbon tax for yourself:

Impose a Price on Carbon Pollution – We can no longer afford to ignore our responsibility no future generations to address climate change before it is inversible. The Back is if our Baghe would impose on polluters a \$25 per son price on carbon dioxide (increasing as 5.6% a year), rebating 25% of all revenues as refundable credits to protect low income families. The Energy Information Administration found that a similar proposal would result in carbon emissions reductions of 26% below 2005 levels by 2020. This would go a long way toward setting the United States on a parh to avoid increasingly extreme and destructive weather, particularly when combined with air pollution controls measures under the Clean Air Act and cohanced energy efficiency.

-- Congressional Progressive Caucus Back to Work Budget Executive Summary

- Rahalf's budget was so far left of the mainstream, only 84 Democrats voted for it while 102 Democrats voted against it (Roll Call, Vote 85, 3/20/13)
- Rahall's carbon tax could put West Virginia's 20,000 coal jobs at risk and could adversely affect thousands more that are supported by the coal industry.
- Then Rahall joined Nancy Pelosi and a small, select group of liberal lawmakers for a special reception at the Environmental Protection Agency Headquarters where environmentalists praised the agency's increased power to wage a War on Coal.
- Rahall has also surrounded himself with Congressional staffers that have a long history of vehemently opposing the use of coal.

The evidence is indisputable - Nick
Rahall has openly sold out West Virginia
and joined the War on Coal.



Help us STOP Nick Rahall's War on Coal:

# FOR CONGRESS



Amanda Renteria is the epitome of a Washington Asider.

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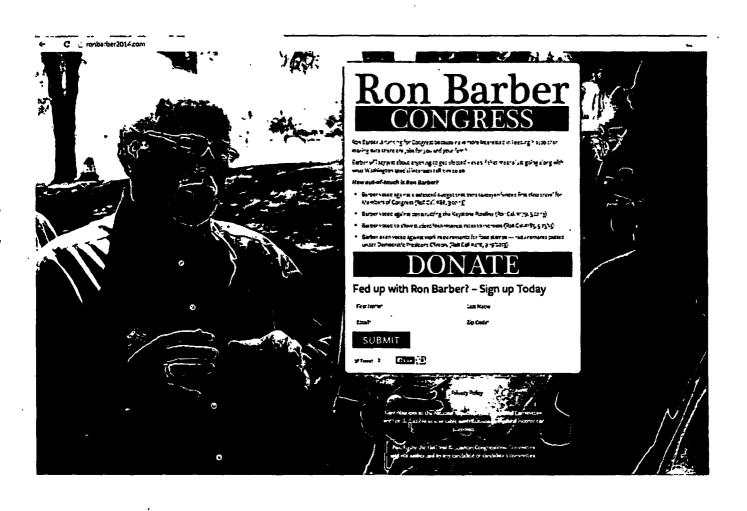
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### Amanda Renteria is the epitome of a Washington insider.

- After spending three years at one of Wall Street's biggest banks, Renteria took a trip through the revolving door to Capitol Hill and received over one million dollars in taxpayer-funded salary.
- Even worse, some of the same lawmakers she worked for voted to bailout her former Wall Street friends at a "too big to fail" bank.
- She has also worked for some of Washington's most liberal Democrats including Dianne Feinstein, a self-described "longtime advocate of high speed rail."

Sign up to Stop Amanda Renteria



Ron Barber is running for Congress because he is more interested in keeping his job than making sure there are jobs for you and your family.

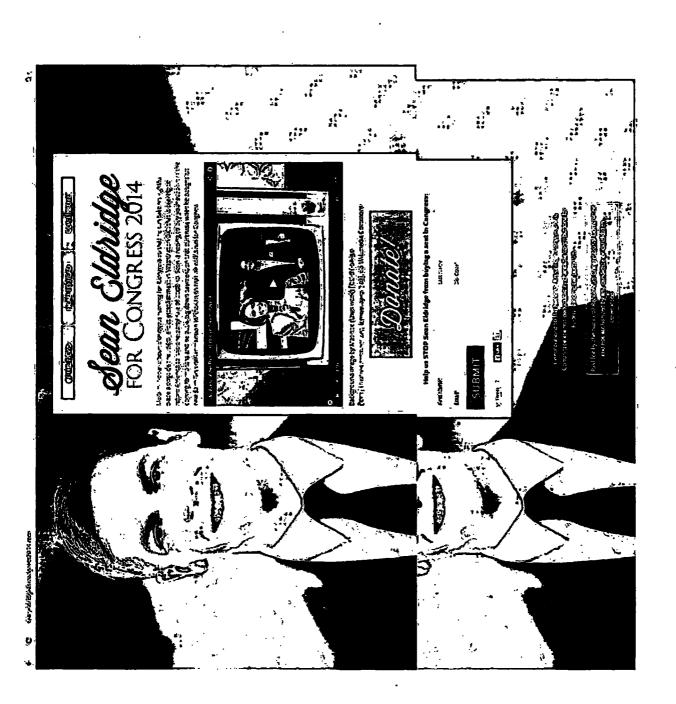
Barber will say just about anything to get elected - even if that means just going along with what Washington special interests tell him to do.

#### How out-of-touch is Ron Barber?

- Barber voted against a balanced budget that bans taxpayer-funded first class travel for Members of Congress (Roll Call #88, 3/20/13)
- Barber voted against constructing the Keystone Pipeline (Roll Call #179, 3/22/13)
- Barber voted to allow student loan interest rates to increase (Roll Call#183, 5/23/13)
- Barber even voted against work requirements for food stamps requirements passed under Democratic President Clinton. (Roll Call #476, 9/19/2013)

# DONATE

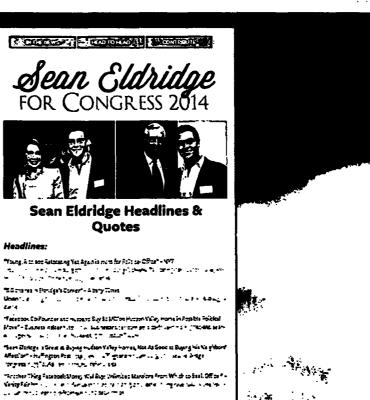
Fed up with Ron Barber? - Sign up Today



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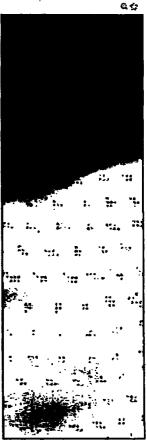
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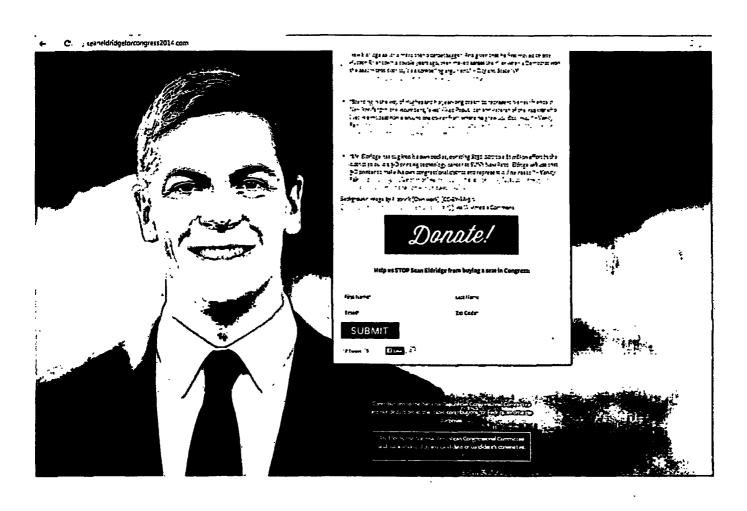




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WITHERITYS HEAD TO HEAD CONTRIBUTE Sean Eldridge FOR CONGRESS 2014 Head to Head:

#### Sean Eldridge

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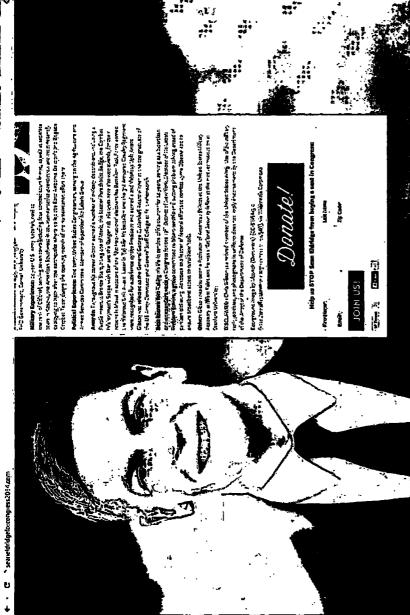
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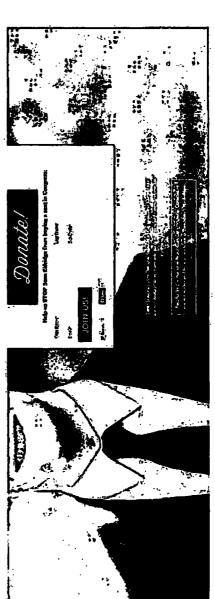
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#### Chris Gibson









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### CONTRIBUTE

# Fed up with Carol Shea-Porter? - Sign up Today

If Nancy Pelosi is to become Speaker of the House in 2014, she is going to need loyal liberal foot soldiers like Carol Shea-Porter by her side in Congress. Since her return to Congress in 2012, Shea-Porter has voted along partisan lines 95% of the time. The fact is, while Shea-Porter may preach bipartisanship on the campaign trail in New Hampshire, in Congress, she is one of Nancy Pelosi's most reliable rubber stamps.

- Carol Shea-Porter voted against an overwhelmingly bipartisan proposal that would require Congress to pass a budget in order for Members of Congress to be paid. Shea-Porter voted that way out of purely personal interest – according to Shea-Porter, "middle class" Members of Congress like herself need the money.
- Shea-Porter thinks that Obamacare does not go far enough to hand control of our health care over to the government. That is why Shea-Porter supports allowing states to move to a Canadian-style single payer system in which citizens have to buy health insurance from the federal government.
- Shea-Porter also voted against providing working moms the same flexibility and monetary compensation as government bureaucrats and against transferring funding to reduce the backlog of disabled veterans at the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The bottom line is that Carol Shea-Porter is less interested in representing the First District of New Hampshire in Washington than she is in forcing more Washington D.C. bureaucracy on the First District of Now Hampshire.

## CONTRIBUTE

Fed up with Carol Shea-Porter? – Sign up Today

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Fed up with Kyrsten Sinema? - Sign up Today

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SUBMIT

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A longtime partisan liberal and career politician, Kyrsten Sinema took her show on the road in 2012, when she was elected to the United States Congress. Obsessed with voting against a balanced budget, hiking student loan rates, and keeping ObamaCare—the law she helped craft—on the books, she fits right in among the legions of Nancy Pelosi Democrats in Washington.

#### When it comes down to it, Arizona families just can't trust Kyrsten Sinema. Here's why:

- Sinema can't be trusted to fix our nation's fiscal crisis because she voted against a plan
  to balance the federal budget and ban taxpayer-funded travel for Members of
  Congress. (Roll Call #88, 3/20/13)
- How can Sinema be expected to fix ObamaCare, when she helped craft the law and campaigned across Arizona in support of it?
- Women just can't trust Sinema to stand up for them. After all, she said women who stay-at-home are "leeching off their husbands or boyfriends."
- Students trusted Sinema to look out for them. Yet she voted to let student loan rates increase and held a bipartisan plan to lower them hostage. (Roll Call#183, 5/23/13)
- Why should Arizonans trust a career politician like her to change Washington? She's too busy spending her time in Congress doing national TV interviews and fawning magazine profiles.

# DONATE

Fed up with Kyrsten Sinema? - Sign up Today



Alex Sink - a risk we can't afford

Help us stop Alex Sink from bankrupting us in Congress – Sign up Today

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THE REAL ALEX SINK TRUTH SQUAD

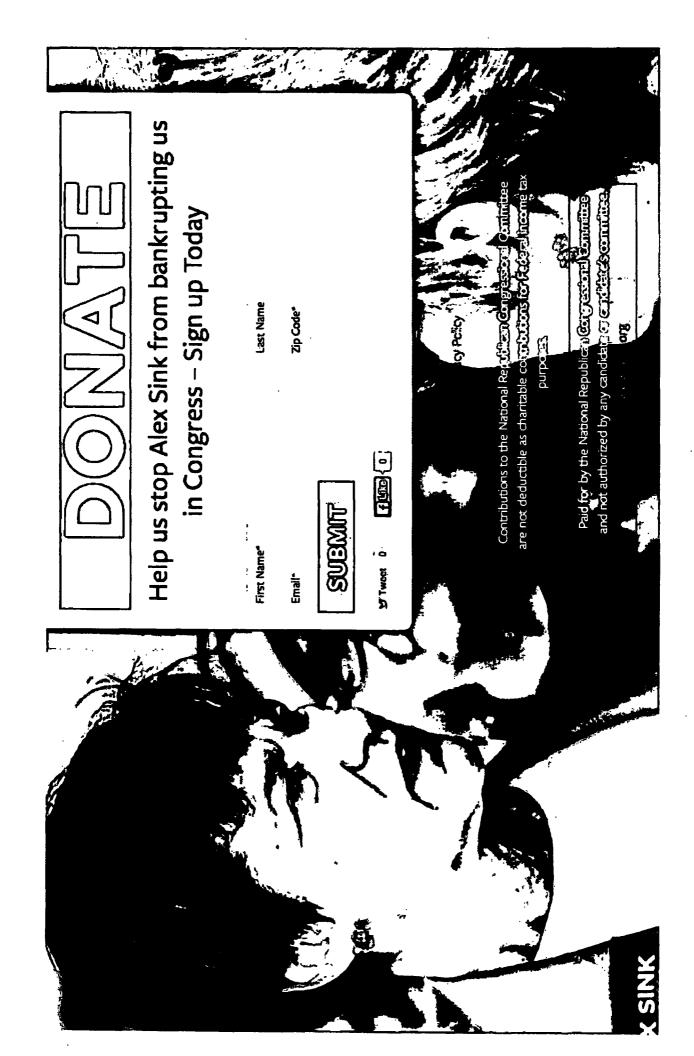


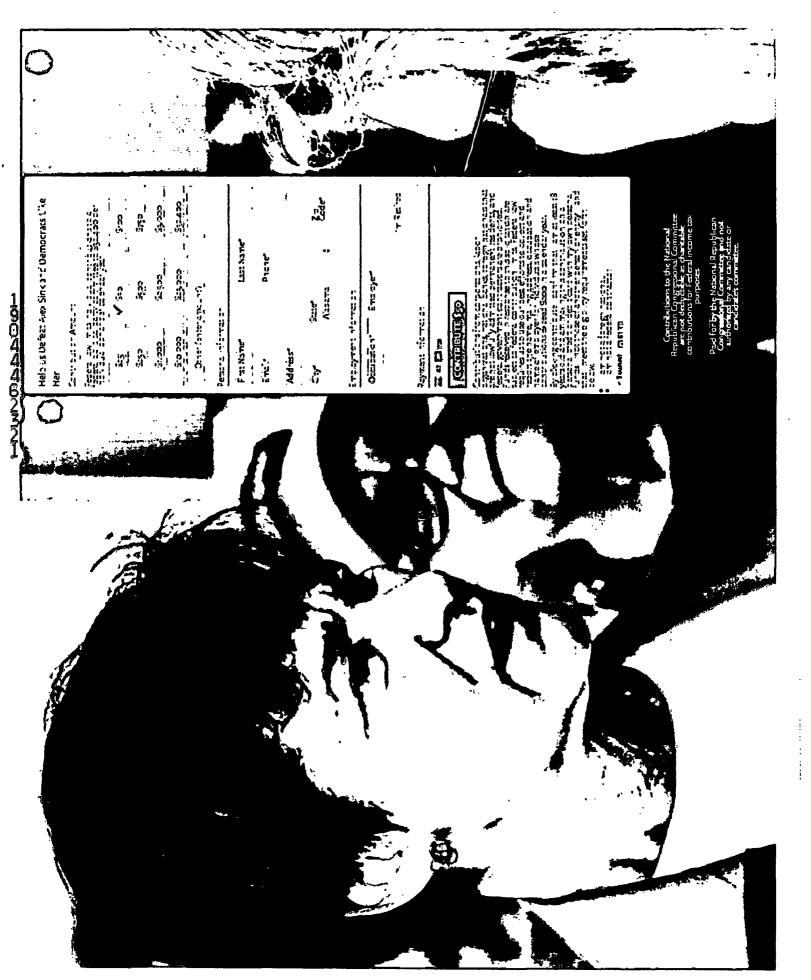


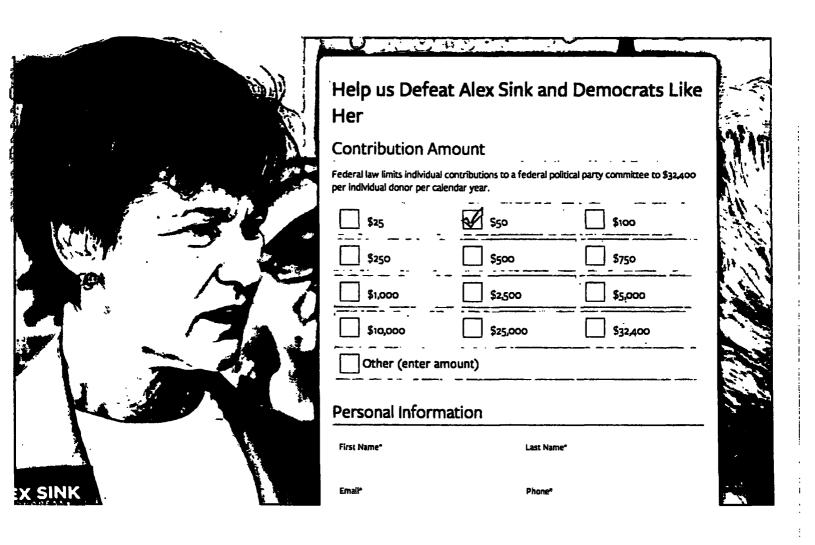
Alex Sink – a risk we can't afford









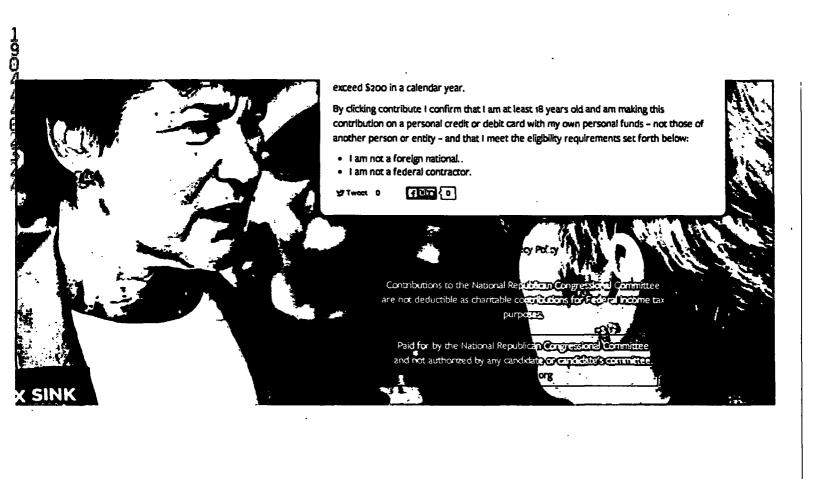




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are not lawfully admitted permanent residents, and federal government contractors are prohibited. Funds received in response to this solicitation are subject to federal contribution limits. Federal law requires us to use our best efforts to collect and report the name, mailing address, occupation and name of employer for individuals whose contributions

exceed \$200 in a calendar year.



# THE VALEX SINK TRUTH THE VALEX SINK

\* Know the Truth. Get the Facts. \*

The forces of dysfunction and gridlock caused by Washington Democrats is causing major headaches for folks across Pinellas County.

Now Alex Sink wants to take her record of incompetence to Washington so she can

other extreme liberal Washington Democrats.

stand with Nancy Pelosi and

Alex Sink is trying to cover up her record as Chief Financial Officer, but the Tampa Bay Times claimed that while she was in charge of Florida's finances, her agency "skirted legal advice, gambled on risky investments."

We need your help to hold her accountable.

Join the Real Alex Sink
Truth Team and help us get
the facts to Pinellas County
families.

DONATE

Stay informed. Share these facts to help spread the truth about Alex Sink's dismal record as CFO and her plans to continue pushing Obamacare on Pinellas families.

Truth 1: Alex Sink DID Hurt Florida's Pension Fund System

Chief Financial Officer Alex Sink served on a board responsible for the oversight of Florida's pension fund while it lost \$27 billion in value. (State Board of Administration Investment Reports, 2006-2007 & 2009-2010)

While serving on this board, Sink and her board members were also criticized in an audit for "significant management deficiencies" and a lack of oversight when it came to risky investments in the local government investment pool. (Palm Beach Post, 4/25/08)

Tweet (http://ctt.ec/krShv)

Truth 2: Alex Sink has a history of adding MORE Debt to Florida

PolitiFact said that while Alex Sink was CFO of Florida she, "did watch the debt increase over her term" by \$3.4 billion. Even a University of South Florida professor said: "You can't say that she

(https://www.nrcc.org/alexsink-congress/contribute/)

### Sign up to learn the real truth about Alex Sink

First Name\*

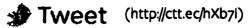
Last Name

Email\*

Zip Code\*

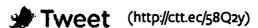
#### **SUBMIT**

(Sink) has no responsibility for it (debt)" (PolitiFact, 11/7/13)



#### **Truth 3: Alex Sink Supports HIGHER Taxes**

Alex Sink has consistently supported higher taxes, including property taxes, sales taxes, and taxes on water, sewer and cable television. She even supported a tax on homeowners insurance policies. (St. Petersburg Times, 1/23/08; Palm Beach Post, 12/16/08; St. Petersburg Times, 2/28/97; Palm Beach Post, 6/11/08)

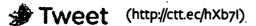


#### Truth 4: Alex Sink is a PARTISAN Politician

Alex Sink is a typical career politician who is already beholden to Washington Democrats. Sink's campaign for Congress is being funded by some of the same people who created the train wreck that is Obamacare.

30 current Members of Congress who voted for Obamacare donated to Sink's congressional campaign totaling \$132,500. (Sink's Pre-Primary FEC Report)

Why would so many Washington politicians give so much money to Alex Sink? Because they know she is a strong supporter of the law they created and will do everything in her power to protect it if sent to Washington.

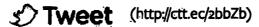


#### Truth 5: Alex Sink SUPPORTS Obamacare

Obamacare is hurting Florida families. The law cuts \$716 billion from Medicare while causing premiums to increase. (Washington Post, 8/14/12;CBS News, 10/30/13)

Even though 300,000 Floridians are losing their current health care coverage, Alex Sink continues to support Obamacare. (floridatoday.com, 11/25/13; CBS News, 10/30/13)

Alex Sink wants to go to Congress so she can stand with Nancy Pelosi and protect Obamacare.



Tweet 0

Like { 0

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(http://www.nrcc.org)

# MIKE PARRISH US CONGRESS

Michael Parrish was a lifelong Republican who donated thousands of dollars to Republican candidates and causes. Wanting to run for Congress in the 6th District of Pennsylvania, Parrish decided his easiest path would be to challenge Republican Congressman Jim Gerlach as a Democrat in a general election instead of as a Republican in a primary. Parrish switched his registration in December of 2013 and immediately abandoned his previously held political beliefs so that he could began buying into the big government agenda of his new fundraiser-in-chief, Nancy Pelosi.

Of course, now that Congressman Jim Gerlach has announced his retirement, one has to wonder if Parrish wants to change his beliefs again and run as Republican. After all, these facts are going to make it pretty tough to run as a Democrat:

- · Parrish was a lifelong Republican and decided to become a Democrat in December of 2013 so that he could run for Congress,
- Parrish donated \$275 to the Republican Federal Committee of Pennsylvania.
- · Parrish donated \$250 to Republican Tom Manion's Congressional campaign.
- Parrish donated \$1,000 to Mitt Romney's 2012 Presidential campaign.
- Parrish donated \$2,000 to John McCain's 2008 Presidential campaign and \$2,000 to the McCain victory fund.



Had enough of Mike Parrish? Sign up Today

Submit	-			•

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#### **DONATE**

Had enough of Mike Parrish? Sign up Today

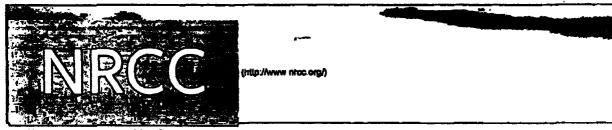
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osi-new-microsite%2F) shares

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npaign-targets-nancy-pelosi-new-microsite%2F&text=Latest%20NRCC%20Web%20Campaign%20Targets%20Nancy%20Pelosi%20With%20New%

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#### atest NRCC Web Campaign Targets Nancy Pelosi With New Microsite NRCC

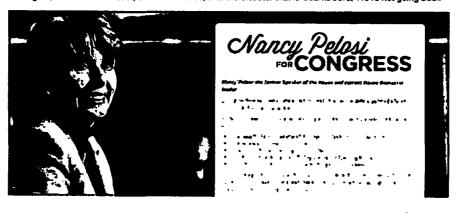
tp://www.nrcc.org/author/admin/) | February 5th, 2014

# On NancyPelosi2014.com (http://nancypelosi2014.com/), Voters Can See The Risk Of Putting Her Back In The Speaker's Chair

ASHINGTON – As part of a new and ongoing microsite campaign this cycle, the National Republican Congressional Committee is launching a web site today hlighting Nancy Pelosi's destructive record —so voters can learn just how high the cost will be if Democrats regain the majority in the House. The site will show voters losi's real record and provide a stark contrast to her own campaign web site.

Ih NancyPelosi2014 com (http://nancypelosi2014.com/), voters from across the country will be able to see Pelosi's history of crafting ObarnaCare, adding trillions in oil, and making outrageous statements. Today, the committee is also launching a similar site on Pelosi ally and Colorado congressional candidate Andrew Romanoff e Pelosi's site, AndrewRomanoff2014 com (http://andrewromanoff2014 com/) will inform Colorado voters on his history of raising taxes and supporting ObarnaCare

ke the others, these new Sites make it clear how big the stakes are this November," said NRCC Communications Director Andrea Bozek. "With Nancy Pelosi and rack Obama in control of Washington, we saw record debt, a falled stimulus, and the disaster that is ObamaCare, We're not going back."



Addition To The Pelosi and Romanoff Sites, The NRCC Previously Launched The Following:

John Tlerney (MA-06)

John Tierney for Congress (http://www.johntlerney2014.com/)

Sean Eldridge (NY-19)

Sean Eldridge for Congress (http://www.seaneldridgeforcongress2014.com/)

John Lewis (MT-AL)

John Lewis for Congress (http://johnlewis2014.com/)

Amanda Renteria (CA-21)

Amanda Renteria for Congress (http://amandarenteriaforcongress.com/)

Nick Rahall (WV-03)

Nick Rahall for Congress (http://rahallforcongress.com/)

Bill Hughes (NJ-02)

Bill Hughes Jr. for Congress (http://www.billhughesjrforcongress.com/)

Alex Sink (FL-13)

Alex Sink for Congress (http://www.sinkforcongress2014.com/)

John Barrow (GA-12)

John Barrow for Congress (http://www.johnbarrow2014.com/)

Ron Barber (AZ-02)

Ron Barber for Congress (http://www.ronbarber2014.com/)

Ann Kirkpatrick (AZ-01)

Ann Kirkpatrick for Congress (http://www.annkirkpatrick.com/)

Kyrsten Sinema (AZ-09)

Kyrsten Sinema for Congress (http://www.sinemaforcongress.com/)

Collin Peterson (MN-07)

Coffin Peterson for Congress (http://www.collinpeterson2014.com/)

Martha Robertson (NY-23)

Martha Robertson for Congress (http://www.martha-robertson.com/)

Annie Kuster (NH-02)

Annie Kuster for Congress (http://www.anniekusterforcongress.com/)

Carol Shea Porter (NH-01)

Carol Shea Porter for Congress (http://www.sheaporterforcongress.com/)



(https://www.nrcc.org/store/reagan-bush-84-campaign-shirt/?

n\_source=nrccsidebar&utm\_medium=website&utm\_campaign=ReaganBushShirt\_sidebar\_s\_v1)

#### ending



(http://www.nrcc.org/2014/05/13/one-gif-house-democrat-will-remind-good-hygiene/)Watch

is Democrat Congressman Eat His Earwax (http://www.nrcc.org/2014/05/13/one-gif-house-democrat-will-remind-good-hyglene/)



(http://www.nrcc.org/2014/05/12/nrcc-announces-first-round-young-gun-candidates/)NRCC

nounces First Round of Young Gun Candidates (http://www.rrcs.org/2014/05/12/nrcc-announces-first-round-young-gun-candidates/)



(http://www.nrcc.org/2014/05/07/latest-story-epa-porn-watching-employee-outrageous/)This

test Story About What The EPA Did To Its Pom-Watching Employee Is Outrageous (http://www.nrcc.org/2014/05/07/latest-story-epa-pom-watching-employeerrageous/)



(http://www.nrcc.org/2014/05/08/one-headline-shows-exactly-whats-stake-november/)This One

adline Shows Exactly What's At Stake In November (http://www.nrcc.org/2014/05/08/one-headline-shows-exactly-whats-stake-november/)





(http://www.nrcc.org/2014/05/13/8-tweets-show-awful-day-democrats/)Here Are 10 Tweets

at Show What An Awful Day Democrats Are Having (http://www.nrcc.org/2014/05/13/8-tweets-show-awful-day-democrats/)



(http://www.nrcc.org/2014/05/13/nrcc-memo-west-virginia-primary-results-2/)NRCC Memo:

sst Virginia Primary Results (http://www.nrcc.org/2014/05/13/nrcc-memo-west-virginia-primary-results-2/) tps://www.tacebook.com/NRCC) (https://twitter.com/NRCC/) (http://www.youtube.com/user/TheNRCC/featured)

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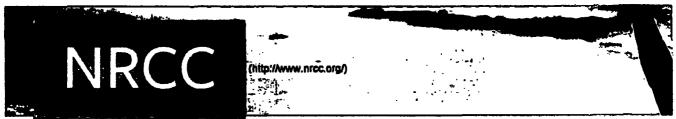
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(http://www.facebook.com/sharer.php?u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.nrcc.org%2F2013%2F10%2F24%2Fnrcc-launches

-website-new-jersey-congressional-candidate-bill-hughes-jr%2F) 0 shares

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2F%2Fwww.nrcc.org%2F2013%2F10%2F24%2Fnrcc-launches-website-new-jersey-congressional-candidate-bill-hughes-jr% 2F&text=NRCC%20Launches%20Website%20Against%20New%20Jersey%20Congressional%20Candidate%20Bill%20Hughes,% 20Jr.&via=nrcc) 11 tweets

(http://www.nrcc.org/category/blog)

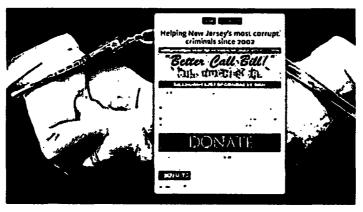
# NRCC Launches Website Against New Jersey Congressional Candidate Bill Hughes, Jr. NRCC (http://www.nrcc.org/author/admin/) | October 24th, 2013

Website Highlights Hughes Jr.'s Career Fighting for the Corrupt and Powerful

The National Republican Congressional Committee launched a new website and targeted search ads today against recently announced New Jersey congressional candidate Bill Hughes, Jr. The website, which can be seen here https://www.nrcc.org/bill-hughes-jr-congress/, highlights Hughes Jr.'s career of fighting to keep some of New Jersey's worst criminals out of jail.

The targeted search ads will direct people searching for more information about Hughes, Jr. to the NRCC's website which will give the viewer a more accurate picture of Hughes Jr.'s career siding with some of the worst of the worst criminals – a career which includes representing a mobster, a crooked cop, a child pornographer, and an accused human trafficker.

"Bill Hughes Jr. has spent the past decade making big money representing some of the worst criminals in New Jersey – whether it be a dirty cop, an accused human trafficker, corrupt public official, a mobster, or even a child pornographer," said NRCC Spokesman Ian Prior, "In fact, Hughes Jr. even boasts on his law firm website about all the light sentences that he helped get for convicted criminals. The choice in this election will be very clear – a bipartisan leader and public servant like Congressman LoBlondo, or a criminal defense lawyer like Hughes Jr. who specialized in standing up for the rich, powerful, and criminally corrupt."



Bill Hughes Jr. for Congress (http://billhughesjrforcongress.com/)



(https://www.nrcc.org/store/reagan-bush-84-campaign-shirt/?

utm\_source=nrccsidebar&utm\_medium=website&utm\_campaign=ReaganBushShirt\_sidebar\_s\_v1)

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outrageous/)This Latest Story About What The EPA Did To Its Pom-Watching Employee is Outrageous (http://www.nrcc.org/2014/05/07/latest-story-epa-porn-watching-employee-outrageous/)



(http://www.nrcc.org/2014/05/08/one-headline-shows-exactly-whats-stake-

november/)This One Headline Shows Exactly What's At Stake In November (http://www.nrcc.org/2014/05/08/one-headline-shows-exactly-whats-stake-november/)



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(http://www.nrcc.org/2014/05/13/nrcc-memo-west-virginia-primary-results-

2/)NRCC Memo: West Virginia Primary Results (http://www.nrcc.org/2014/05/13/nrcc-memo-west-virginia-primary-results-2/) (https://www.facebook.com/NRCC) (https://www.youtube.com/user/TheNRCC/featured)

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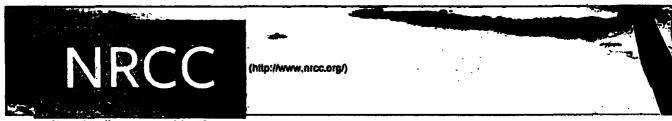
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-website-new-jersey-congressional-candidate-bill-hughes-jr-2%2F) 0 shares

(http://twitter.com/share?url=http%

3A%2F%2Fwww.nrcc.org%2F2014%2F01%2F13%2Fnrcc-launches-website-new-jersey-congressional-candidate-bill-hughes-jr-2% 2F&text=NRCC%20Launches%20Website%20Against%20New%20Jersey%20Congressional%20Candidate%20Bill%20Hughes,% 20Jr.&via=nrcc) 0 tweets

(http://www.nrcc.org/category/blog)

## NRCC Launches Website Against New Jersey Congressional Candidate Bill Hughes, Jr. lan Prior (http://www.nrcc.org/author/iprior/) | January 13th, 2014

The National Republican Congressional Committee launched a new website and targeted search ads today against recently announced New Jersey congressional candidate Bill Hughes, Jr. The website, which can be seen here https://www.nrcc.org/bill-hughes-jr-congress/), highlights Hughes Jr.'s career of fighting to keep some of New Jersey's worst criminals out of jail.

The targeted search ads will direct people searching for more information about Hughes, Jr. to the NRCC's website which will give the viewer a more accurate picture of Hughes Jr.'s career siding with some of the worst of the worst criminals — a career which includes representing a mobster, a crooked cop, a child pornographer, and an accused human trafficker.

"Bill Hughes Jr. has spent the past decade making big money representing some of the worst criminals in New Jersey – whether it be a dirty cop, an accused human trafficker, corrupt public official, a mobster, or even a child pornographer," said NRCC Spokesman lan Prior, "In fact, Hughes Jr. even boasts on his law firm website about all the light sentences that he helped get for convicted criminals. The choice in this election will be very clear – a bipartisan leader and public servant like Congressman LoBiondo, or a criminal defense lawyer like Hughes Jr. who specialized in standing up for the rich, powerful, and criminally corrupt."

Check out the site by clicking on the screen shot below:

Bill Hughes Jr. For Congress (http://billhughesjrforcongress.com/)



(https://www.nrcc.org/store/reagan-bush-84-campaign-shirt/?

utm\_source=nrccsidebar&utm\_medlum=website&utm\_campalgn=ReaganBushShirt\_sidebar s v1)

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# FAII

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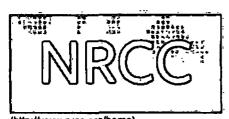
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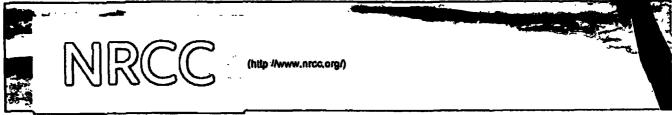
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-website-paid-campaign-targeting-montanas-john-lewis%2F) 1 shares

(http://twitter.com/share?url=http%3A%

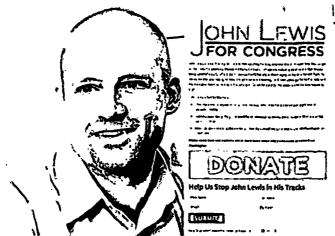
2F%2Fwww.nrcc.org%2F2013%2F08%2F27%2Fnrcc-launches-website-paid-campaign-targeting-montanas-john-lewis% 2F&text=NRCC%20Launches%20Website%20and%20Paid%20Campaign%20Targeting%20Montana%E2%80%99s%20John% 20Lewis&via=nrcc) 10 tweets

(http://www.nrcc.org/category/blog)

#### NRCC Launches Website and Paid Campaign Targeting Montana's

John Lewis Alleigh Marre (http://www.nrcc.org/author/amarrenrcc-org/) | August 27th, 2013

In light of the news that John Lewis is filling for a House Seat, the NRCC has launched a website to welcome Lewis to the race and educate voters on his background:



(http://johnlewis4congress.com/)

Visit: http://johnlewis4congress.com/ (http://johnlewis4congress.com/)

The site outlines the preliminary reasons that John Lewis is wrong for Congress and will be promoted with a Google search campaign where terms related to John Lewis and his congressional bid direct voters to this site. The site touches on Lewis' taxpayer-funded salary and his longtime work with the 'chief architect' of ObamaCare, Max Baucus.

NRCC Comment: "As John Lewis tries to re-introduce himself after his tenure with ObamaCare's 'chief architect' Max Baucus, we encourage voters to remember the eighteen new taxes enacted under the law. In an already stagnant economy, Montanans need a problem solver who will support lower, fairer tax rates, not a partisan ideologue." — Alleigh Marré, NRCC Spokeswoman

John Lewis for Congress (http://johnlewis4congress.com/)



(https://www.nrcc.org/store/reagan-bush-84-campaign-shirt/?

utm\_source=nrccsidebar&utm\_medium=website&utm\_campaign=ReaganBushShirt\_sidebar\_s\_v1)

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(http://www.nrcc.org/2014/05/13/nrcc-memo-west-virginia-primary-results-

2/)NRCC Memo: West Virginia Primary Results (http://www.nrcc.org/2014/05/13/nrcc-memo-west-virginia-primary-results-2/) (https://www.facebook.com/NRCC) (https://www.youtube.com/user/TheNRCC/featured)

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ssachusetts-congressman-john-tierney%2F) 0 shares



.06%2Fnrcc-launches-website-vulnerable-massachusetts-congressman-john-tierney%2F&text=NRCC%20Launches%20Website%20Against%20Vulnerable%

Vassachusetts%20Congressman%20John%20Tierney&via=nrcc) 6 tweets

tp://www.nrcc.org/category/press-release)

## RCC Launches Website Against Vulnerable Massachusetts Congressman John ierney Matt Gorman (http://www.nrcc.org/author/matt-gorman/) | January 6th, 2014

#### Website Highlights Tierney's Partisan Record and Support for Extreme Budget

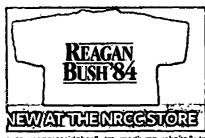
ASHINGTON - The National Republican Congressional Committee launched a website today targeting Massachusetts Sixth District Congressman John Tierney.

rney, who is best known for his family's involvement in an international criminal gambling ring, has shown himself to be an extreme partisan in Congress who refuses out his constituents before his angry determination to entrench himself far to the left of mainstream Democrats. The site, housed at http://www.johntierney2014.com/ tp://www.johntierney2014.com/), highlights Tierney's questionable ethics and his support for the Progressive Caucus budget, which has been consistently rejected by a jority of Democrats and criticized by former President Bill Clinton for shipping jobs overseas and leaving Medicare and Social Security vulnerable.

nn Tierney is Washington D.C. gridlock personified," said NRCC Spokesman lan Prior. "He continues to oppose bipartisan bills in Congress and instead identifies neelf with the hyper-partisan wing of his own party. Massachusetts deserves far better than an ethically challenged Congressman whose claim to fame in Congress is bomly trying to advance extreme and damaging policies and walking out of Congressional hearings like a spoiled child when he doesn't get his way."

rmey voted for an extreme budget that couldn't garner a majority of Democrat support. (H CON RES 25, AMENDMENT 3, Roll Call #85 tp://clerk:house.gov/evs/2013/roll086.xml), 3/20/2013); (H CON RES 34, AMENDMENT 3, Roll Call #274 (http://clerk.house.gov/evs/2011/roll274.xml), 5/2011).

en Bill Clinton criticized the budget Tierney voted for as it could ship jobs and tax revenue overseas and would leave Medicare-and Social Security Inerable. (Bill Clinton, Back to Work, pp. 80-81, November 8, 2011).



(https://www.nrcc.org/store/reagan-bush-84-campaign-shirt/?

n\_source=nrccsidebar&utm\_medium=website&utm\_campaign=ReaganBushShirt\_sidebar\_s\_v1)

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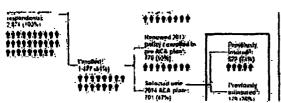
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(http://www.nrcc.org/2014/05/12/one-chart-will-show-need-know-obamacares-enrollees/)This

e. Chart Will Show You All You Need To Know About ObamaCare's Enrollees (http://www.nrcc.org/2014/05/12/one-chart-will-show-need-know-obamacares-enrollees/) tps://www.facebook.com/NRCC) (https://wwiter.com/NRCC/) (http://www.youtube.com/user/TheNRCC//eatured)

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-website-paid-campaign-targeting-amanda-renteria%2F) 2 shares



| | (http://twitter.com/share?url=http%3A%2F%

2Fwww.nrcc.org%2F2013%2F09%2F24%2Fnrcc-launches-website-paid-campaign-targeting-arnanda-renteria%2F&text=NRCC% 20Launches%20Website%20and%20Paid%20Campaign%20Targeting%20Amanda%20Renteria&via=nrcc) 16 tweets (http://www.nrcc.org/category/blog)

#### NRCC Launches Website and Paid Campaign Targeting Amanda

Renteria Alleigh Marre (http://www.nrcc.org/author/amarrenrcc-org/) | September 24th, 2013

Have you heard the news? Washington, DC-insider Amanda Renteria is toying with the idea of running for Congress (http://blogs.rollcall.com/rothenblog/democrats-ready-to-land-recruit-in-elusive-california-district/) in California's 21st district. I wanted to share with you what we are doing to welcome Renteria to the race.

Today, the NRCC is rolling out AmandaRenteriaForCongress.com (http://amandarenteriaforcongress.com/). The site outlines all of Renteria's DC ties and why she is wrong for California families. In addition to unveiling this website, the NRCC has launched a paid google advertising campaign. When California voters start to hear about Renteria's candidacy and google her to learn more, our google ads will drive people to this website so they can learn the truth about Renteria.

"Amanda Renterla is a partisan activist and Washington insider. In addition to her bloated taxpayer-funded salary, Renterla has worked for some of DC's most liberal Democrats. Californians will have a clear choice between Renteria, who represents a vote for Nancy Pelosi's tax-and-spend agenda, and David Valadao, who has been a proven problem solver." -- Alleigh Marré, NRCC Spokeswoman

#### AMANDA RUN TRIA



(./NRCC Launches Website and Paid Campaign Targeting Amanda Renteria - National Republican Congressional Committee www.nrcc.org\_files/amanda-site.jpg)Amanda Renteria for Congress (http://amandarenteriaforcongress.com/)



(https://www.nrcc.org/store/reagan-bush-84-campaign-shirt/?

utm\_source=nrccsidebar&utm\_medium=website&utm\_campaign=ReaganBushShirt\_sidebar\_s\_v1)

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(http://www.nrcc.org/2014/05/07/latest-story-epa-porn-watching-employee-

outrageous/)This Latest Story About What The EPA Did To Its Porn-Watching Employee Is Outrageous (http://www.nrcc.org/2014/05/07/latest-story-epa-porn-watching-employee-outrageous/)



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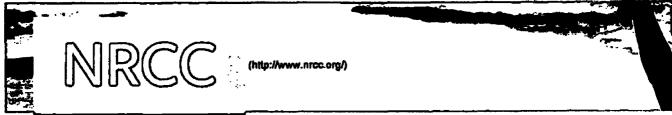
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(http://www.nrcc.org/category/blog)

#### NRCC Launches Website and Paid Campaign Highlighting Out-of-Touch Millionaire Sean Eldridge Ian Prior (http://www.nrcc.org/author/iprior/) | August 12th, 2013



(http://www.nrcc.org/2013/08/12/nrcc-launches-website-and-paid-campaign-highlighting-out-of-touch-millionaire-sean-eldridge/screen-shot/)

#### NRCC Using www.eldridgeforcongress2014.com to inform voters about Eldridge

WASHINGTON – Today, the National Republican Congressional Committee launched an online advertising campaign highlighting Sean Eldridge's Washington D.C. ambitions and his willingness to spend whatever it takes to buy himself a Congressional seat. The campaign will include Google search ads, display ads, and Facebook ads, all of which will direct voters in New York's 19th district to www.eldridgeforcongress2014.com.

The website contains an "About" section, highlighting Eldridge's history as an out-of-touch elitist desperately trying to leverage his massive wealth into a Congressional seat. The site also lists the numerous bad headlines Eldridge has received, as well as a "head-to-head" section comparing Eldridge's thin and unimpressive resume to the accomplishments of retired Army Colonel Chris Gibson.

"Sean Eldridge has spent the past several months visiting the 19th District of New York handing out cash in a thinly veiled attempt to buy a congressional seat," said NRCC Spokesman lan Prior. "Unfortunately, while Eldridge is using his wealth to curry favor, he is apparently not disclosing the fact that he is preparing to run for Congress. This Website will let New York families know Eldridge's true ambitions and his willingness to spend whatever it takes, and move wherever he needs to, in order to be Nancy Pelosi's lap dog in Washington."

The site can be viewed here (http://seaneldridgeforcongress2014.com/).

Sean Eldridge for Congress (http://seaneldridgeforcongress2014.com/)



(https://www.nrcc.org/store/reagan-bush-84-campaign-shirt/?

utm\_source=nrccsidebar&utm\_medium=website&utm\_campaign=ReaganBushShirt\_sidebar\_s\_v1)

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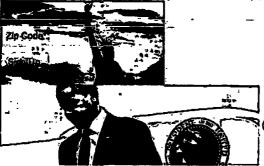
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ANDREA BOZEK, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

For Immediate Release February 6, 2014 Contact: Press Office (202) 479-7070

# NRCC Launches Website Against "Political Opportunist" Pennsylvania Congressional Candidate Mike Parrish

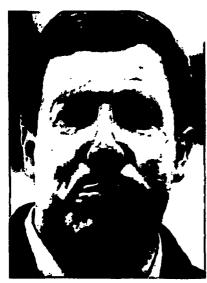
**WASHINGTON** – The National Republican Congressional Committee launched a website today targeting Pennsylvania's 6<sup>th</sup> District Congressional Candidate Mike Parrish.

Parrish, who is running for Congress as a Democrat, was formerly a lifelong Republican, having donated thousands of dollars to Republican candidates and causes over the years. In December, however, Parrish switched his longtime party affiliation so that he could have an easier chance to compete in the general election for Congress.

The last thing that Parrish wants to talk about are the specifics on why he suddenly switched parties and joined the party of ObamaCare and Nancy Pelosi; especially on the same day that Pelosi is hosting a fundraiser for him. That is why the NRCC has created a website that will give voters more information on the man that so desperately wants to go to Washington, he's willing to switch allegiance and sell out to Democrats like Nancy Pelosi to close the deal. The site is hosted at <a href="http://parrish4congress.com/">http://parrish4congress.com/</a>.

"Michael Parrish wants to be in Congress so badly, he is willing to abandon his political principals and join the party of ObamaCare and Nancy Pelosi just to have an easier path to a general election," said NRCC Regional Spokesman Ian Prior. "This begs the question — if Parrish is so willing to cast his beliefs aside for what is best for his political career, how long would it take him to sell out Pennsylvania families when their needs don't match up to those of his new leader, Nancy Pelosi?"

You can view the website here:



# MIKE PARRISH US CONGRESS

Had enough of Mike Parrish? Sign up Today



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ANDREA BOZEK, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

For Immediate Release November 7, 2013

Contact: Press Office (202) 479-7070

## NRCC Launches Website Against New York Congressional Candidate Martha Robertson

Robertson's Big-Government Agenda is Wrong for New York

**WASHINGTON** – The National Republican Congressional Committee launched a website against New York Congressional Candidate Martha Robertson today, which highlights her out-of-touch priorities, liberal agenda, and lack of integrity.

The website, which will pop up on search engines for viewers to learn the truth about Robertson, will be housed at <a href="www.martha-robertson.com">www.martha-robertson.com</a>. The site shows visitors the real side of Robertson, which includes her support for a Canadian-style single payer healthcare system, her campaign's involvement with a convicted child molester, her lies about her Republican opposition that have led to calls for an FBI investigation, and her belief that climate change is more important that jobs, the economy, and education.

"Martha Robertson has her priorities all wrong, and it's time that voters in Western New York and the Southern tier see the truth about her out-of-touch her values and views," said NRCC Spokesman Ian Prior. "While Robertson is campaigning with a child molester, deceiving her supporters for money, and pushing an agenda that is far to the left of most Democrats, Congressman Reed is fighting for progrowth policies that will usher in a new era of economic expansion for this and future generations of New Yorkers."

You can view the website here:



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For Immediate Release November 6, 2013 Contact: Press Office (202) 479-7070

# NRCC Launches Attack Microsites Against New Hampshire Congresswomen Annie Kuster and Carol Shea-Porter

Kuster and Shea-Porter Have Done Nothing But Advance President
Obama's Liberal Agenda

**WASHINGTON** – Today, the National Republican Congressional Committee launched attack microsites against both of New Hampshire's Congresswomen – Rep. Annie Kuster and Rep. Carol Shea-Porter.

The sites, which will be accessible through online search engines, will direct New Hampshire voters to read the truth about their Representatives without their deceptive spin and rhetoric. Both Kuster and Shea-Porter regularly put Washington D.C. politics before their constituents in the Granite State by supporting the job-crushing, expensive policies of ObamaCare, voting against a bipartisan plan to stop student loan rates from rising, and asking middle class families to play by one set of rules while Kuster and Shea-Porter play by another.

As shown through their wildly out-of-touch voting records over the past 11 months, both Kuster and Shea-Porter have done nothing but work AGAINST New Hampshire families and FOR Nancy Pelosi's out of touch, liberal agenda.

"Carol Shea-Porter and Annie Kuster have shown that they are far more interested in standing up for the status quo in Washington D.C. than they are in fighting on behalf of middle class New Hampshire families," said NRCC Spokesman Ian Prior. "Granite Staters want their representatives to be independent voices working on their behalf, and in order to get that they are going to have to send Shea-Porter and Kuster packing in 2014."

The website URLs are as follows:

http://anniekusterforcongress.com

http://sheaporterforcongress.com

You can view the websites here:



# SHEA-PORTER

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## ANNIE KUSTER for CONGRESS

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#### DONATE Now

Fed up with Annie Kuster? - Sign up Today

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# New NRCC Campaign Targets "Red Zone" Democrats with Microsites

WASHINGTON — The seven most vulnerable politicians in Congress are about to get a wake-up call. The National Republican Congressional Committee is launching attack microsites against the seven Democrats in the NRCC's Red Zone a year out from the election.

The sites show voters where these Democrats really stand, and will provide a stark contrast to their own campaign Web sites. The targeted races are part of the NRCC's Red Zone program, launched earlier this year in districts won on the presidential level by Bush, McCain, and Romney. The districts are: Ann Kirkpatrick (AZ-01), Ron Barber (AZ-02), John Barrow (GA-12), Collin Peterson (MN-07), Mike McIntyre (NC-07), Jim Matheson (UT-04), and Nick Rahall (WV-03).

"These Democrats are frauds and don't fit their districts," said NRCC Communications Director Andrea Bozek. "They continuously say one thing back home, then vote with Nancy Pelosi in Washington. With this new NRCC campaign, voters will finally learn the truth about these two-faced politicians."

Here's an example of one of the sites, against Ann Kirkpatrick:



#### The website URLs are as follows:

http://rahallforcongress.com/ http://johnbarrow2014.com/ http://ronbarber2014.com/ http://annkirkpatrick.com/ http://collinpeterson2014.com/ http://mikemcintyre2014.com/ http://mathesonforutah.com/

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For Immediate Release November 6, 2013

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# New NRCC Web Campaign Targets Arizona Democrats with Microsites

Voters looking for info on Kirkpatrick, Barber and Sinema will now learn the truth

WASHINGTON – They are three of the most vulnerable incumbents in the country and they all reside in Arizona: Ann Kirkpatrick (AZ-01), Ron Barber (AZ-02), and Kyrsten Sinema (AZ-09).

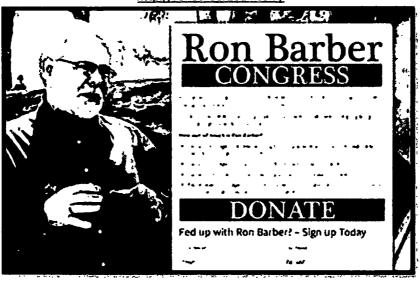
Starting today, The National Republican Congressional Committee is launching microsites so voters can finally learn the truth about these two-faced politicians. The sites show voters where these Democrats really stand, and will provide a stark contrast to their own campaign Web sites.

"These three Arizona Democrats are frauds and don't fit their districts," said NRCC National Press Secretary Daniel Scarpinato. "From ObamaCare to spending, Ann Kirkpatrick, Ron Barber and Kyrsten Sinema continuously try to scam voters in Arizona, then vote with Nancy Pelosi in Washington. With this new NRCC campaign, Arizonans can finally learn the truth about these two-faced politicians."

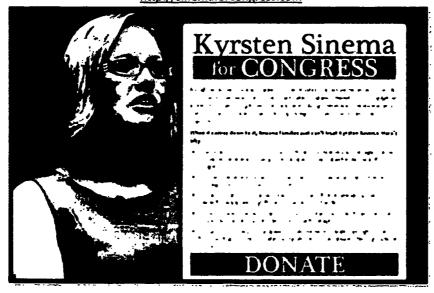
KIRKPATRICK
FOR WCONGRESS

Ped up with Ann Kirkpatrick? - Sign up
Today

http://ronbarber2014.com/



http://sinemaforcongress.com



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# EXHIBIT C



November 06, 2013, 06:00 am

# NRCC hits top Democratic targets with attack microsites

The National Republican Congressional Committee (NRCC) is launching stand-alone attack sites hitting the seven Democratic targets in its Red Zone program, a GOP designation for Democrats' most vulnerable incumbents.

The Red Zone candidates are Reps. Ann Kirkpatrick (Ariz.), Ron Barber (Ariz.), John Barrow (Ga.), Collin Peterson (Minn.), Mike McIntyre (N.C.), Jim Matheson (Utah) and Nick Rahall (W.Va.), who are all running for reelection in districts won by Republicans in the past three presidential elections,

All seven are elusive GOP targets who have repeatedly managed to eke out reelection wins despite representing tough districts.

Democrats need 17 seats to regain the majority, a tall order for any party but a particularly difficult get in an off-year when the party holding the White House normally loses seats.

But Republicans aren't taking those 17 seats for granted, and their Red Zone program is an opportunity for the GOP to play offense and work to expand their already considerable margin.

The sites are all labeled like traditional campaign sites — AnnKirkpatrick.com is one; MathesonForUtah.com another — opening the possibility that a voter could stumble upon them while seeking information on a given candidate.

And each includes details on the candidates' voting history and Republican attack lines.

"Ron Barber is running for Congress because he is more interested in keeping his job than making sure there are jobs for you and your family," reads the site hitting Barber.

The sites all provide the option for a user to donate to the NRCC and sign up to the committee's mailing list.

NRCC Communications Director Andrea Boxek said the sites are meant to provide the truth about Democratic "frauds."

"These Democrats are frauds and don't fit their districts," she said in a statement. "They continuously say one thing back home, then vote with Nancy Pelosi in Washington. With this new NRCC campaign, voters will finally learn the truth about these two-faced politicians."

TAGS: John Barrow, Ann Kirkpatrick, Ron Barber, Mike McIntyre, Jim Matheson, Nick Rahall, Colin Peterson, NRCC Red Zone, House races 2014

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